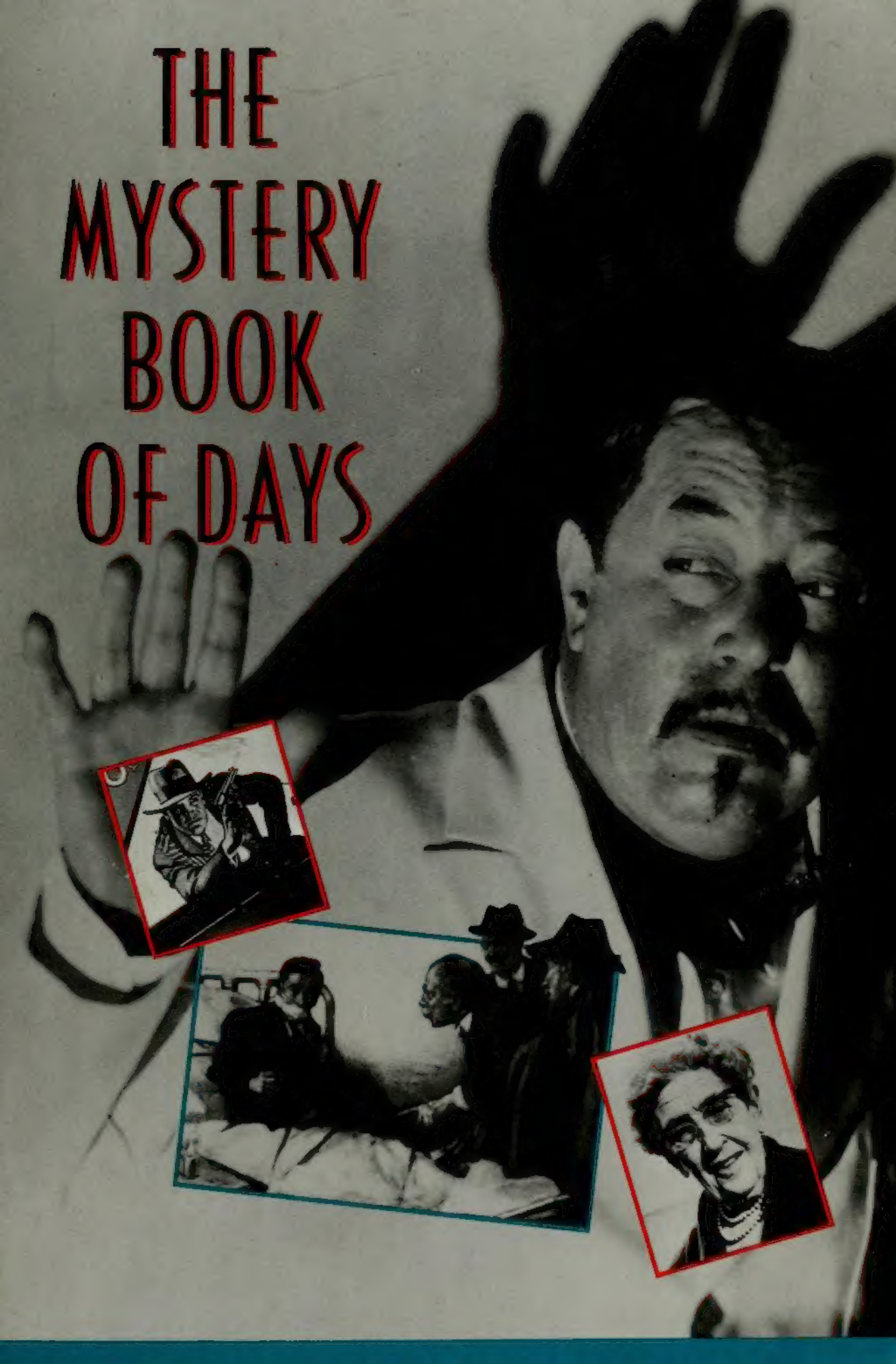
THE MYSTERY BOOK OF DAYS



13298

c 750

issued w/o dj

THE MYSTERY BOOK OF DAYS

© 1946 Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc. Ren. 1973 United Artists Television, Inc.

THE MYSTERY BOOK OF DAYS

WILLIAM MALLOY

THE MYSTERIOUS PRESS
New York • Tokyo • Sweden • Milan
Published by Warner Books
A Time Warner Company

Copyright © 1990 by Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc.
All rights reserved.

Mysterious Press books are published
by Warner Books, Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York,
NY 10103.

A Time Warner Company

Printed in the United States of America

First printing: November 1990

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Malloy, William.
The mystery book of days / by William Malloy.
p. cm.
ISBN 0-89296-422-7
1. Detectives in mass media—Handbooks, manuals, etc.
P96.D4M35 1990
809.3'872—dc20 90-43560
CIP

Editorial director: Maron L. Waxman
Project coordinator: Sara Stein

Book design and composition by The Sarabande Press

Since this page cannot legibly accommodate all the acknowledgments and credits, they appear with each illustration and constitute an extension of this copyright page. All possible care has been taken to trace ownership of every illustration and to make full acknowledgment for its use. If any errors or omissions have accidentally occurred, they will be corrected in subsequent editions provided notification is sent to the publisher.

BOMC offers recordings and compact discs, cassettes
and records. For information and catalog write to
BOMR, Camp Hill, PA 17012.

THE MYSTERY BOOK OF DAYS

Jules –

I hope all of this has meaning for you! As you know, mysteries is not one of my genres! Lots of love and a wonderful 1991?!

I love you,

Robin

JANUARY

The hard-boiled detective of Ron Goulart's *Dime Detectives*. *Will Williams/Mysterious Press.*

• 1 •

1928 The first self-contained Charlie Chan film, *The Chinese Parrot*, is released (a serial version of *The House Without a Key* was made in 1926). The role of Chan is played by the Japanese actor K. Sojin.

1946 Dashiell Hammett's Sam Spade makes his debut on CBS radio

1984 Mystery authors William L. DeAndrea (*Killed on the Rocks*, 1990) and Orania Papazoglou (*Rich Radiant Slaughter*, 1988) are wed in South Norwalk, Connecticut

• 2 •

1920 Isaac Asimov is born in Petrovici, U.S.S.R. Known in Sherlockian circles as the Remarkable Worm Unknown to Science, Asimov is the author of more than 400 books, including the mysteries *Murder at the ABA* (1976) and *Tales of the Black Widowers* (1979).

• 3 •

1893 Rufus King, author of *Murder by the Clock* (1929) and creator of Lieutenant Valcour, is born in New York City Valcour appears in ten more novels, including *Museum Piece No. 13* (1946), which is filmed by Fritz Lang as *The Secret Beyond the Door* in 1948.

1952 The prototype cop drama *Dragnet* premieres on NBC-TV. Jack Webb's series features a realism that has not yet been seen on the still-emerging medium.

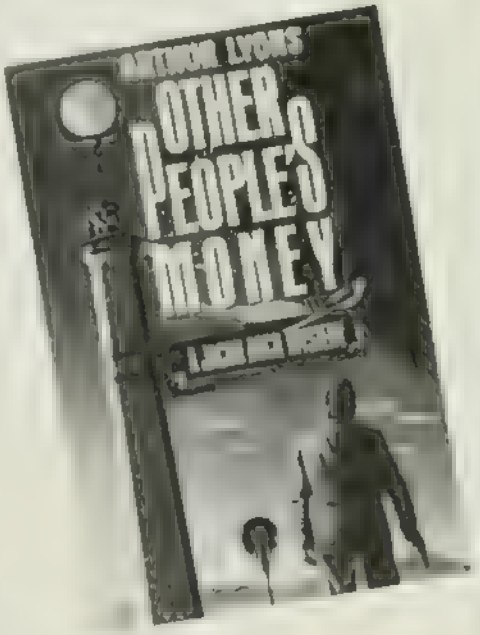
• 4 •

1941 *High Sierra*, Raoul Walsh's screen version of the W.R Burnett novel, is released, with Humphrey Bogart starring as the notorious Mad Dog Earle, who escapes from prison only to find his criminal talents and style outdated

• 5 •

1909 Harry Kurnitz, otherwise known as Marco Page, is born in New York City. As Page, he is the author of the classic bibliomystery *Fast Company* (1937). As Kurnitz, he writes movie scripts for *Witness for the Prosecution* (1957), *A Shot in the Dark* (1964), and *How to Steal a Million* (1966)

1946 Arthur Lyons, the creator of Jacob Asch, one of the finest contemporary examples of the southern California private eye, is born in Los Angeles. Among the Asch novels are *Three with a Bullet* (1985) and *Other People's Money* (1989).



Although Arthur Lyons is most often compared with Raymond Chandler, his 1989 thriller of smuggled artwork and exotic foreign suspects, *Other People's Money*, is a homage to Dashiell Hammett and *The Maltese Falcon*. *David Jumper, illustration, Paul Gamarello and Barbara Buck, design/Mysterious Press*

• 6 •

1854 The world's first consulting detective, Sherlock Holmes is born in North Riding, Yorkshire. Since Holmes's first appearance in *Beeton's Christmas Annual* in 1887 (in the

Wilkie Collins's "Woman in White."

Actor and playwright William Gillette was the best-known Sherlock Holmes before the television era

novel *A Study in Scarlet*), Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's creation has become possibly the most famous fictional character in history

1974 *The CBS Radio Mystery Theatre*—the first television-era effort to revitalize the dead art of audio drama—has its premiere.

• 7 •

1968 Ed Lacy, known as Len Zinberg in real life, dies in New York City. Lacy created the black detective Toussaint Moore, hero of the Edgar Award–winning *Room to Swing* (1957)

• 8 •

1824 Wilkie Collins, a nineteenth-century innovator in the mystery genre, is born in London. Collins is the author of *The Woman in White* (1860) and *The Moonstone* (1868), a book

The hatchet-faced Sergeant Cuff of *The Moonstone* (*right*)

described by T.S Eliot as "the first, the longest, and the best" mystery ever written

1897 Dennis Wheatley is born in London. In the 1930s, Wheatley creates a series of "Crime Dossiers," which consists of cardboard folders containing typewritten sheets Inserted among the pages are photos of real people, handwritten letters, telegrams, hair, pieces of bloodstained curtain, and so on—all assembled to give the reader the opportunity to solve the crime just as the police would. The most famous is *Murder Off Miami* (1936)

•9•

1976 Death of Phoebe Atwood Taylor, creator of Asey Mayo. Mayo, or "the Codfish Sherlock," was the quintessential Yankee sleuth in books such as *The Cape Cod Mystery* (1931) and *Sandbar Sinister* (1934)

•10•

1896 Frances Lockridge, who along with husband Richard creates Mr. and Mrs. North, one of the most famous husband-and-wife detective teams in the mystery genre, is born in Kansas City. The Norths investigate, intuit, and

The sophisticated suburban detective team of Pam and Jerry North, as illustrated on the jacket of their first mystery, published in 1940

The sixth detective novel featuring Ellery Queen, written by the Queen team of Frederic Dannay and Manfred B. Lee. The nine earliest Queens featured a succession of national titles—*The French Powder Mystery*, *The Egyptian Cross Mystery*

imbibe (their cat is named Martini) their way through novels from 1940 to 1963.

• 11 •

1905 Half of the Ellery Queen writing team, Manfred B Lee is born in Brooklyn. In order to win a mystery contest in *McClure's* magazine, Lee teams up with his cousin Frederic Dannay to create famed detective Ellery Queen. But the magazine goes bankrupt before their first prize can be awarded—for *The Roman Hat Mystery* (published in book form in 1929).

1962 Helen Reilly, whose series of realistic police procedural novels that focus on the closed circles of the upper classes and feature Manhattan inspector Christopher McKee, dies in New Mexico. A former president of the Mystery Writers of America, her daughters are mystery writers Ursula Curtis and Mary McMullen.

• 12 •

1945 Rodney Whittaker, who writes as Trevanian, is born in Tokyo. The creator of Jonathan Hemlock—mountain climber, art professor, assassin—and hero of *The Eiger Sanction* and *The Loo Sanction*, Trevanian also cowrites (with

Agatha Christie, whose play *The Mousetrap* is the longest-running show in the history of modern theater. *Library of Congress*

Warren Murphy) the screenplay to *The Eiger Sanction* (1975), which stars Clint Eastwood

1949 Robert Siodmak's film noir classic, *Criss Cross*, is released. This dark tale of double crosses upon double crosses stars Burt Lancaster, Dan Duryea, and Yvonne De Carlo

1976 Agatha Christie, the grande dame of mystery fiction, dies. Christie took the wise course of killing off her two greatest creations—to avoid their resurrection after her death—in *Curtain* (Poirot's death, 1975) and *Sleeping Murder* (Marple's death, 1976)

• 13 •

1926 Carolyn G. Heilbrun, who writes as Amanda Cross, is born in East Orange, New Jersey. Columbia University professor Heilbrun writes novels of manners set in academia and containing strong mystery elements. Professor Kate Fansler, her intellectual yet likable detective hero, appears in such novels as *Death in a Tenured Position* (1981) and *No Word from Winifred* (1986)

1928 Murderers Ruth Brown Snyder and Henry Judd Gray go to the electric chair. A reporter for *The New York Daily News* smuggles a tiny camera into the death chamber and photographs Snyder in her death throes—the picture becomes one of the most infamous tabloid photos of all time

• 14 •

1898 Birth of Hilary Aidan St. George Saunders, who along with John Leslie Palmer comprises the Francis Beeding writing team. Beeding writes *The House of Dr. Edwards* (1927), which becomes Alfred Hitchcock's 1947 classic film *Spellbound*.

1957 Humphrey Bogart, known to filmgoers as Sam Spade, Philip Marlowe, Rick Blaine, Duke Mantee, Fred C. Dobbs, Charlie Allnut, and Captain Queeg, dies in Hollywood.

• 15 •

1947 The body of Elizabeth Short, a would-be actress known as the Black Dahlia, is found in a vacant lot in Los Angeles. The murder sparks the biggest manhunt in L.A. history, but the case remains unsolved to this day.

1968 *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* airs its final episode on NBC. Starring Robert Vaughn as the urbane secret agent Napoleon Solo and David McCallum as the Russian Illya Kuryakin, the show is sparked by America's James Bond mania when it premieres in 1964, but by 1968 audiences are ready for a different sort of thrill—NBC replaces *U.N.C.L.E.* with *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*, a top hit of the late sixties.

• 16 •

1936 Child murderer Albert "the Cannibal" Fish is electrocuted at Sing Sing. Looking forward to his execution, Fish calls the electric chair "the only thrill I haven't tried yet."

1939 *I Love a Mystery*, one of the finest—and longest running—mystery-adventure radio shows, premieres on NBC.

1944 *I Wake Up Screaming*, starring Victor Mature, Betty Grable, Carole Landis, and Laird Cregar, is released. Although the novel by pulp writer Steve Fisher features an insider's view of Hollywood, producer Darryl F. Zanuck (who hates "Hollywood" movies) forces a setting change to New York City.

1958 Carroll John Daly, creator of Race Williams, considered the first hard-boiled dick, Satan Hall, a brutal urban vigilante; and other pulp heroes, dies.

• 17 •

1771 Charles Brockton Brown is born in Philadelphia. The man who wrote the first American gothic novel, *Wieland, Or, the Transformation* (1798), Brown creates a tale of a man driven mad by the voice of "God," actually a psychotic ventriloquist.

1950 "Fats" Pino and "Big Joe" McGinnis lead a gang of eleven in a robbery of the Brink's armored car service center in

Boston. All gang members were later tracked down and sentenced—victims of an informant

• 18 •

1882 A.A. Milne is born in London. Creator of Christopher Robin and Winnie-the-Pooh, Milne's only mystery, *The Red House Mystery* (1922), is called one of the three best mystery novels of all time by Alexander Woollcott. A lighthearted country-house romp, it features the dizzy amateur sleuth Antony Gillingham, known to his chums as Madman

• 19 •

1809 The father of the detective story, Edgar Allan Poe is born in Boston. A notorious gambler, drunkard, and opium addict, Poe is also a leading American literary figure of the nineteenth century. His "Murders in the Rue Morgue" (1841) introduces C. Auguste Dupin, master of ratiocination, a word Poe invents. Poe's other works range from his famed horror stories to romantic poetry, humorous pieces, and psy-

A.A. Milne, Christopher Robin Milne, his son, and much-loved Pooh at Catchford Farm, Sussex in 1921 *National Portrait Gallery, London*

James Carling's illustration for Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven," one of America's best-known poems and a parlor favorite throughout the nineteenth century. *Poe Foundation*

chological essays. Poe achieves cinematic fame as the only mystery writer to be portrayed as the lead character in several films, including the early D.W. Griffith short, *Edgar Allan Poe* (1909).

1921 Patricia Highsmith, champion of the dark psychological novel, is born in Texas. An influential author whose books foster the modern ascension of the nihilist suspense story, Highsmith's first novel, *Strangers on a Train* (1950), brings her immediate attention, which grows with the success of Alfred Hitchcock's brilliant 1951 film adaptation Later a famous series of novels beginning with *The Talented Mr. Ripley* (1955) features Tom Ripley, a morally bankrupt swindler and murderer

•20•

•21•

1864 Israel Zangwill is born in London Zangwill's *The Big Bow Mystery* (1892), is considered, along with Poe's "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," one of the earliest examples of the "locked-room" mystery.

1944 *Sherlock Holmes and the Spider Woman*, a rather

pedestrian film in the Basil Rathbone–Nigel Bruce series, is released. Notable chiefly for the introduction of the title character, a sort of female Moriarty played by Academy Award–winner Gale Sondergaard, the Spider Woman character proves to be popular enough to warrant the making of a Holmes-less spin-off film.

1946 *The Fat Man*, featuring a character created by Dashiell Hammett especially for radio, premieres on ABC.

•22•

1937 L.A. cop-turned-author Joseph Wambaugh is born in East Pittsburgh. Wambaugh becomes a best-selling author in 1970 with *The New Centurions* and later subverts the standard police procedural formula through the use of bizarre humor, social commentary, and tragedy in such novels as *The Choirboys* (1975) and *The Blue Knight* (1972).

•23•

1947 The film version of Raymond Chandler's *Lady in the Lake* is released. The entire movie is shot subjectively through the eyes of Philip Marlowe (played by Robert Montgomery, who also directed). Marlowe is seen only when he happens to look in a mirror, and despite the advertising ("*You* get socked in the jaw! *You* get kissed by a beautiful woman!"), audiences fail to appreciate the experiment.

1962 Kim Philby, an upper-class, Cambridge-educated Englishman who became a high-ranking intelligence officer, disappears. Six months later the Soviet Union announces Philby's defection—for the past three decades Philby had been working clandestinely for the KGB.

1975 *Barney Miller* premieres on ABC. The comedic portrayal of life in New York City's 12th Precinct is hailed by cops nationwide as the most honest television depiction of police life to date.

•24•

1821 Birth of Angus Reach in Inverness, Scotland. Reach is the author of *Clement Lorimer* (1848), an early novel of detection and the first to liken a detective to a sleuthhound.

•25•

1874 W. Somerset Maugham is born in Paris. Best known as the author of *Of Human Bondage* (1915), Maugham also writes the influential *Ashenden; or The British Agent* (1928), which demythologizes the spy story and makes the secret agent into a proletarian figure. The novel anticipates modern espionage fiction by realistically portraying the dull, everyday procedure of the spy.

•26•

1955 International con man and swindler Serge Rubinstein is found strangled in his plush New York apartment. His killer is never apprehended.

1984 *Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer* returns to TV in the person of actor Stacy Keach. While America's values have changed since Spillane's enormous popularity in the 1940s and 1950s, Hammer remains as sexist and violence-prone as ever.

•27•

•28•

1941 Birth of Richard Hoyt in Hermiston, Oregon. Hoyt first becomes known as the creator of extremely soft-boiled Seattle PI John Denson, hero of *30 for a Harry* (1981), but his best work appears in his wacky spy thrillers, which feature the pot-smoking, hard-drinking James Bond parody character James Burlane (*Trotsky's Run*, 1982).

1961 Dora Amy Elles Dillon Turnbull, who wrote as Patricia Wentworth and is best known for her enduring, lovable, genteel private detective Miss Maud Silver (*The Gazebo*, 1956), dies.

•29•

1910 Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, adapted for the stage by J. Comyns Carr and starring Henry Irving, opens in London.

1979 Seventeen-year-old San Diego student Brenda Spencer opens fire on passers-by near her school on Monday, January 29, killing two and wounding nine. Her only explanation: "I don't like Mondays." The Irish new-wave group the Boomtown Rats score a cult hit in 1980 with "I Don't Like Mondays," prompting a lawsuit by Spencer's parents.

Gelett Burgess, anonymous mystery writer

•30•

1866 Gelett Burgess, author of the classic bit of doggerel "The Purple Cow" and the anonymously written *Master of Mysteries* (1912), is born in Boston.

1924 The author of *No Medals for the Major* (1974), Margaret Beda Nicholson (nee Margaret Yorke), is born in Compton, Surrey. Beginning with conventional detective novels featuring Patrick Grant, she matures to write more complex novels of psychological suspense.

•31•

1935 J. S. Fletcher, whose *Middle Temple Murder* (1918) was to Woodrow Wilson what *From Russia with Love* was to John F. Kennedy, dies.

February 13 Jean Gabin (*in hat*) as Maigret in the 1958 Jean Delannoy film *Inspector Maigret*

FEBRUARY

The aristocratic Dr. Fortune, connoisseur of fine food and crime (*above*), and in the throes of scientific detection (*above right*). H.C. Bailey (*below, right*) created Dr. Reggie Fortune, one of the most popular fictional detectives in the 1930s, but nearly forgotten today

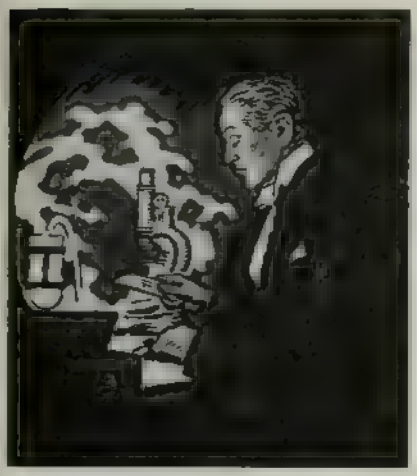
• 1 •

1878 Birth of H.C. Bailey in London. Bailey creates Dr Reggie Fortune, a physician who acts as special adviser to Scotland Yard. Fortune proves one of the most popular detectives in England between the world wars. The aristocratic Fortune's chubby looks and frequent exclamations of "Oh, my aunt!" mask his extraordinary deductive abilities and strong principles (*Call Mr. Fortune*, 1920)

1920 Birth of Colin Watson, Croydon, Surrey. Watson is the author of eleven novels about the bawdy, high-spirited town of Flaxborough, where murders are investigated by the amiable Inspector Purbright and his assistant, Sgt. Sidney Love. He also writes *Snobbery with Violence* (1971), a sociological history of British crime fiction

• 2 •

1877 Frank Packard, creator of safecracker Jimmie Dale, is born in Montreal. Dale is also known as the Gray Seal, a modern-day Robin Hood who preys on other criminals in the fashion of Raffles and the Saint (*The Adventures of Jimmie Dale*, 1917)



"The Gray Seal" throws a protective arm around a nocturnal companion in this jacket illustration from *Jimmie Dale and the Phantom Clue* (1922)

1904 Prolific pulp detective writer Frank Gruber, creator of Johnny Fletcher, Otis Beagle, Simon Lash, and Oliver "the Human Encyclopedia" Quade, is born in Elmer, Minnesota. Gruber's specialty is colorful heroes and backgrounds and bizarre murder methods. Gruber is also the screenwriter for *The Mask of Dimitrios* (1944).

1922 Movie director William Desmond Taylor is found shot to death in his Hollywood bungalow. The ensuing scandal destroys the careers of actresses Mary Miles Minter and Mabel Normand, but Taylor's killer is never found.

• 3 •

1912 Owney "the Killer" Madden, one of New York's most famous gangsters, begins his murderous career. Aged twenty, he follows William Henshaw—against whom he holds a grudge—to a trolley at Ninth Avenue and Sixteenth Street and shoots him. Once Madden is arrested for the crime, police can find no one to testify against him.

• 4 •

1906 Maurice Procter is born in Nelson, Lancashire. His series character, Detective Chief Inspector Harry Martineau, appears in one of the first modern police procedurals, *Hell Is a City*, published in December 1954—preceding John Creasey's George Gideon series by a few months and Ed McBain's first 87th Precinct novel by a year.

• 5 •

1915 Margaret Millar is born in Kitchener, Ontario. Her insightful psychological mysteries, including *A Stranger in My Grave* (1960) and *How Like an Angel* (1962), are fine examples of the California sleuth mystery popularized by her husband, Kenneth Millar (Ross Macdonald). She was awarded the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Award in 1983.

1974 Newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst is kidnapped at gunpoint from her Berkeley apartment by four members of a revolutionary organization called the Symbionese Liberation Army. Their motto: "Death to the fascist insect that preys upon the life of the people."

• 6 •

1939 Raymond Chandler's first novel, *The Big Sleep*, featuring L.A.'s favorite hard-boiled dick, Philip Marlowe, is published by Alfred A. Knopf.

1947 The screen version of the Chandler novel *The High Window* is released as *The Brasher Doubloon*, starring George Montgomery as Marlowe.

Cast photo from the 1987 Broadway production of Charles Dickens's *Mystery of Edwin Drood*. *Martha Swope*

•7•

1812 Charles Dickens is born in London. He creates Inspector Bucket of *Bleak House* (1853), one of the earliest detectives in British fiction. Dickens dies before completing his only true detective novel, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, leading to a full-scale trial of the major suspect by leading British authors in the early twentieth century. The presiding judge is G.K. Chesterton; the jury foreman is George Bernard Shaw. The verdict: John Jasper is found guilty of the murder of his nephew, Edwin Drood.

1823 Ann Radcliffe, author of *The Mysteries of Udolpho* (1794), one of the earliest gothic novels, dies.

•8•

1924 The first execution by gas is carried out in the United States; the recipient is Gee Jon, who goes to the Nevada gas chamber for the murder of his wife.

•9•

1881 Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky, author of *Crime and Punishment* (1866), the brilliant novel that details the hideous bludgeoning of an elderly pawnbroker by the student Raskolnikov, dies in St. Petersburg.

• 10 •

1865 Frederic Van Rensselaer Dey, who claimed to have written one thousand stories featuring detective Nick Carter, is born in Watkins Glen, New York. In truth, he wrote only 437.

1932 Edgar Wallace, ridiculously prolific author of hundreds of novels, plays, and short stories of crime, dies in London. During his prime, he is reported to have authored one out of every four books purchased in Great Britain

• 11 •

1891 Birth of Elliot Paul in Malden, Massachusetts. Bon vivant, boogie-woogie pianist, and crime author, his detective character, Paris-based jazz aficionado Homer Evans, is meant as a parody of Philo Vance's snobbery. Evans's first appearance in *The Mysterious Mickey Finn* in 1939 ironically coincides with S.S. Van Dine's death.

• 12 •

1931 Amsterdam police procedural author Janwillem van de Wetering is born in Rotterdam. His series featuring Grijpstra and de Gier is marked by an intense view of reality tempered

Nick Carter in action, pistol smokin' and necktie askew; Frederic Van Rensselaer Dey *(above)*, creator of *Nick Carter*

by a disciplined mysticism. His Buddhist-flavored mysteries include *Outsider in Amsterdam* (1975) and *The Rattle Rat* (1986)

•13•

1903 The master of character creation, Georges Simenon, is born in Liège, Belgium. One of the great writers in the history of the genre, Simenon's novels about Inspector Jules Maigret are less mystery stories than they are beautifully told studies of humanity (*The Crime of Inspector Maigret*, 1931). Maigret is not a master of deduction; rather, he studies settings and suspects to close the case. During the years of World War II, Simenon drops Maigret for a period and concentrates on somber socio-psychological fiction (*The Man Who Watched the Trains Go By*, 1938), but in 1946 he returns to his dogged Inspector, writing up to four books a year until ill health forces his retirement in 1973.

1914 Alphonse Bertillon, inventor of the Bertillon identification system (based on various physical measurements), dies. The Bertillon system immediately preceded the technique of fingerprinting and was the first international system for tracking career criminals.

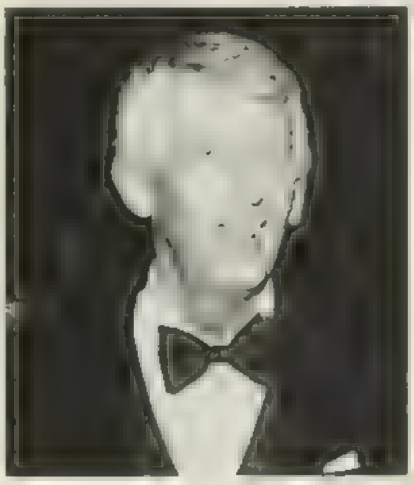
•14•

1929 The Saint Valentine's Day Massacre occurs in Chicago at 2212 N. Clark Street at the S.M.C. Cartage Company, a garage "front" for the Bugs Moran gang. Five men, three dressed in police uniforms, enter late in the morning and line up seven men, gathered to receive a shipment of bootleg whiskey, against the brick wall. With their backs to the supposed police officers—actually members of Al Capone's gang—the seven are suddenly shot down in a hail of machine-gun fire

•15•

1883 The man behind Fu Manchu, Arthur Henry Sarsfield Ward, who wrote as Sax Rohmer, is born in Warwickshire, England. Rohmer creates a person "tall, lean and feline, high-shouldered, with a brow like Shakespeare and a face like Satan, a close-shaven skull and magnetic eyes of a true cat-green . . . Imagine that awful being and you have a mental picture of Dr. Fu Manchu, the Yellow Peril incarnate in one man."

1933 Unemployed anarchist Giuseppe Zangara opens fire on President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt in Miami. Missing Roosevelt, two of his bullets hit mayor of Chicago Anton J Cermak, who dies from the wounds. Conspiracy theorists claim that Cermak—who had been working on wiping out the Chicago mobs—was really the intended target



The dapper Gregory Mcdonald, creator of investigative reporter Fletch and Boston policeman Flynn, at a Mystery Writers of America banquet
Star Black

The Devil Doctor displays his Shakespearean brow and Satanic mug in a detail from the jacket illustration of *Emperor Fu Manchu* (1959)

1937 The creator of the bumbling yet attractive character Fletch, immortalized by Chevy Chase in two movies, Gregory Mcdonald is born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. Mcdonald starts strong in the mystery genre, garnering Edgar Awards for his first two novels, *Fletch* (1974) and *Confess, Fletch* (1976). Investigative reporter Irwin Maurice Fletcher, commonly known as Fletch, is a humorous and likable rascal In *Confess, Fletch* he comes up against a formidable opponent in Inspector Francis Xavier Flynn, who proves engaging enough to warrant his own series (*Flynn*, 1977; *Flynn's In*, 1984)

• 16 •

1901 Actor Chester Morris is born in New York City. Morris portrays Jack Boyle's incorrigible ex-convict and cracksman Boston Blackie in a series of fourteen B films, including *Meet Boston Blackie* (1941) and *Boston Blackie's Chinese Venture* (1949)

• 17 •

1888 Birth of Ronald Knox in Knibworth, Leicestershire. A member of the Detection Club, he writes many classic mysteries, including *The Footsteps at the Lock* (1928). His 1930 essay "Studies in the Literature of Sherlock Holmes" is responsible for an upsurge in Holmesian scholarship

1930 Ruth Rendell is born in London. The Edgar-winning author is the creator of Chief Inspector Reginald Wexford, featured in *Wolf to the Slaughter* (1967), *The Veiled One* (1988), and many others. Her nonseries novels of psychological suspense include the horrifying inverted mystery *A Judgement in Stone* (1977) and the brilliant *Bridesmaid* (1989). Under the pseudonym Barbara Vine she wins the 1986 Edgar for best novel for *A Dark-Adapted Eye*.

1944 The film version of Cornell Woolrich's *Phantom Lady*, directed by Robert Siodmak and starring Franchot Tone and Ella Raines, is released

• 18 •

1929 Birth of Len Deighton in London. Best-selling espionage novelist and World War II historian Deighton's first success comes with *The Ipcress File* (1962), whose hero, Harry Palmer, is nameless until appearing on the screen in 1965 in the form of Michael Caine. Palmer is based on the real-life adventures of spy-turned-espionage-novelist Ted Allbeury. Among Deighton's recent works are the Game, Set, and Match trilogy, which mark a return to the style that brought him fame

• 19 •

1859 Congressman Dan Sickles is acquitted of the murder of his wife's lover on the grounds that he suffered "temporary insanity"—the first time this defense is used in American legal history.

1926 Birth of jack-of-all-mystery-trades Ross Thomas in

Len Deighton (*bottom, left*), one of the world's best-selling writers of thrillers, espionage novels, and highly researched war novels and histories

Ross Thomas (*below*), called America's most inventive crime writer, is the holder of two Edgar Awards. *Robert Witkowski/Ross Thomas*

Oklahoma City. Thomas's acclaimed books span the genre from whodunits to caper novels to stories of political intrigue. Author of *The Seersucker Whipsaw* (1967), *Chinaman's Chance* (1978), and *The Fourth Durango* (1989), Thomas receives the 1966 Best First Novel Edgar Award for *The Cold War Swap*, as well as the 1984 Best Novel Edgar for *Briarpatch*, his murder mystery set in a corrupt midwestern city. Under the pseudonym Oliver Bleeck, Thomas also writes a mystery series that features professional "go-between" Philip St. Ives.

•20•

1927 Actor Sidney Poitier is born in Miami. He requests to be called Mr. Tibbs in three movies featuring the Washington-based black detective Virgil Tibbs. The first, *In the Heat of the Night* (1967), is based on the novel by John Ball.

•21•

•22•

1896 Peter Cheney, who specializes in an ersatz hard-boiled American style aimed primarily at European readers, is born in London. His G-man Lemmy Caution, from his first novel, *This Man Is Dangerous* (1936), appears in Jean-Luc Godard's acclaimed film *Alphaville* (1965).

1930 Edward D. Hoch, the Edgar-winning short story writer who enjoys the distinction of having appeared in every issue of *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* for fifteen years, is born in Rochester, New York.

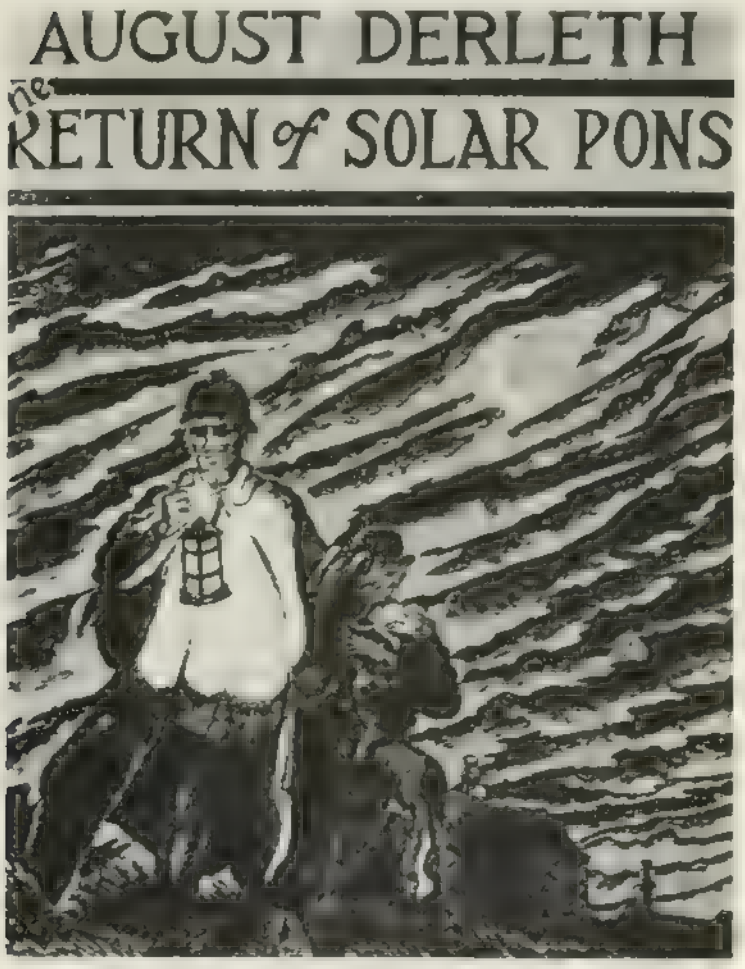
1945 The radio program *Hercule Poirot* premieres on the Mutual network. The first episode includes an introduction spoken by Agatha Christie, via shortwave, from London.

•23•

1955 Dashiell Hammett, an American Communist Party member, testifies before the Supreme Court in 1955, saying, "Communism to me is not a dirty word."

•24•

1848 Grant Allen, the man who created Colonel Clay, the first rogue hero of crime fiction, is born in Kingston, Ontario. His best-known mystery is *An African Millionaire*, serialized in *The Strand* magazine from 1896 through 1897. It tells the story of the repeated fleecing of South African capitalist Sir Charles Vandrift by confidence man and trickster Clay, a master of disguise.



Solar Pons and Dr. Parker with the game afoot, from the jacket illustration for a 1958 Mycroft & Moran collection. *Arkham House*

1909 August Derleth, who founds Arkham House, the leading publisher of horror and supernatural fiction, is born in Sauk City, Wisconsin. Mycroft & Moran (named for Sherlock's brother and Moriarty's sidekick), a subsidiary of Arkham House, publishes prolific author Derleth's Sherlock Holmes pastiches featuring detective Solar Pons

•25•

1921 John Wainwright, a major exponent of the police procedural, is born in Leeds, Yorkshire. Wainwright generally concentrates on one crime per book rather than the usual formula of a team of detectives handling a wide variety of cases in a single novel. His major work, *The Last Buccaneer* (1971), features an evil villain planning the takeover of Wainwright's unnamed city

1922 Henri Landru, the notorious "French Bluebeard," is executed by guillotine. His story inspires Charlie Chaplin's 1947 black comedy film *Monsieur Verdoux*

•26•

1884 Birth of Hugh Wiley in Zanesville, Ohio. Wiley creates Mr. Wong, a mandarinlike sleuth who solves crimes

from his curio-filled Chinatown study. The stories, originally published in *Collier's*, are first brought to the screen in *Mr. Wong, Detective* (1938), with Boris Karloff in the title role.

1922 Birth of Jack Ritchie, a short story writer who creates a bizarre world populated by bumbling detectives who occasionally stumble upon the correct solution by accident.

• 27 •

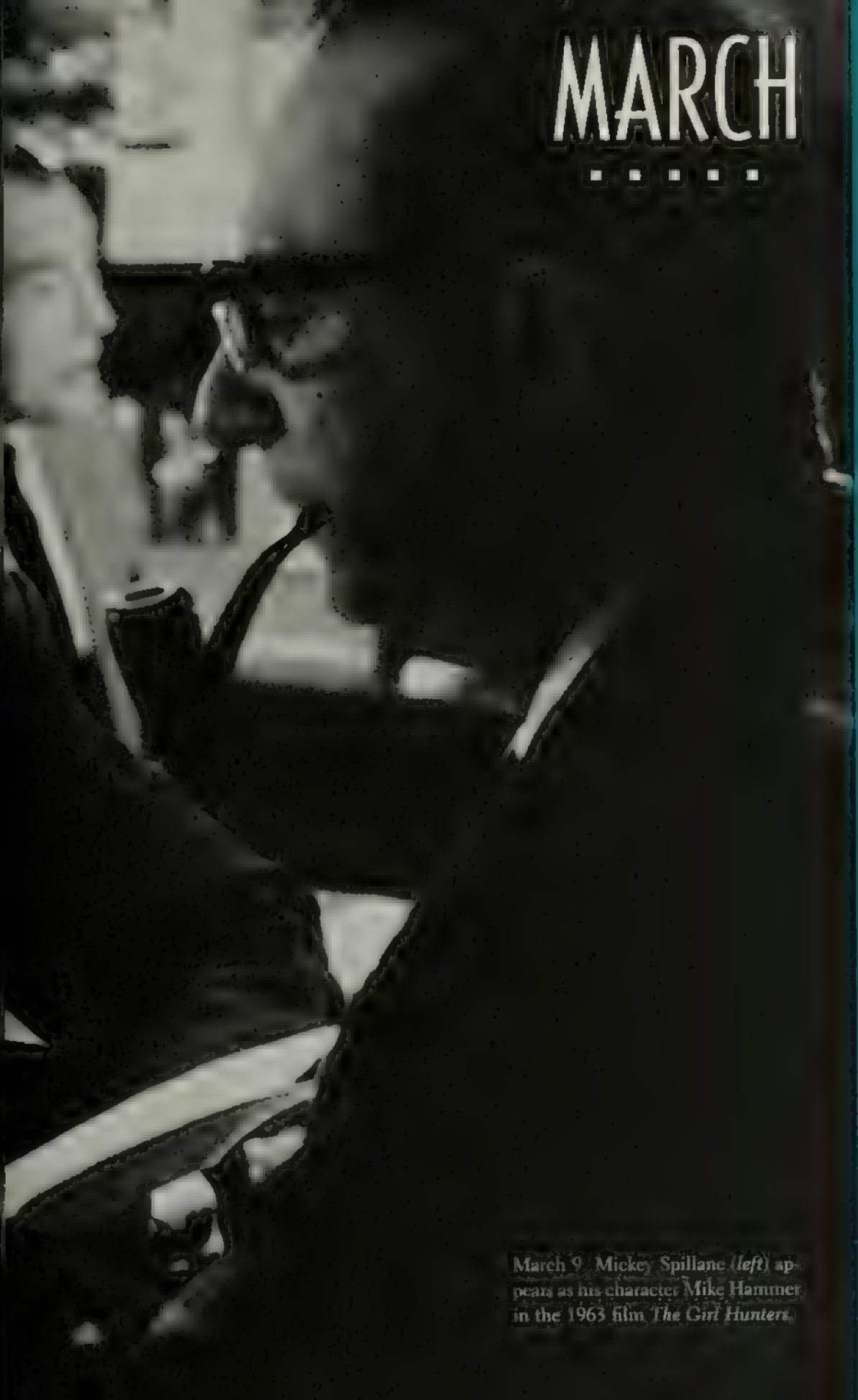
1977 John Dickson Carr, master of the locked-room mystery, dies in Greenville, South Carolina—in an unlocked room.

• 28 •

1830 The man who rejects Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is born in Cheltenham. James Payn, a British mystery writer whose works are long forgotten, is also the editor of *Cornhill Magazine*, where he rejects *A Study in Scarlet*, much to his later regret

1893 Ben Hecht is born in New York City. Screenwriter Hecht's first screenplay, *Underworld* (1927, directed by Josef von Sternberg), became what is considered the first film in the wildly popular gangster genre. Among his other screenplays are Alfred Hitchcock's *Spellbound* (1945) and *Notorious* (1946).

MARCH



March 9 Mickey Spillane *(left)* appears as his character Mike Hammer in the 1963 film *The Girl Hunters*.

• 1 •

1932 Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., the twenty-month-old son of one of the most famous Americans of the 1920s, is kidnapped from his New Jersey home by Bruno Richard Hauptmann. The tabloids call it the crime of the century. The child dies when Hauptmann drops him while climbing from a second-story window, but the body is not found until May 12—after the kidnapper has already collected nearly $50,000 in ransom payments.

• 2 •

1831 The first woman to write an American detective novel, Metta Victoria Fuller Victor, is born in Erie, Pennsylvania. Under the name Seeley Regester she writes *The Dead Letter* (1867). This accomplishment is often overlooked, and credit is given to Anna Katharine Green, author of *The Leavenworth Case* (1878).

1917 Birth of David Goodis in Philadelphia. A master of the *roman noir*, along with Cornell Woolrich and Jim Thompson, Goodis is best known for his Fawcett Gold Medal paperbacks of the 1950s. His first novel, *Dark Passage* (1946), is filmed by Delmore Daves and becomes the classic plastic surgery film noir with Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall. Although only recently rediscovered in the United States, Goodis's work has been long acclaimed in France—*Down There* (1956) was filmed by François Truffaut as *Shoot the Piano Player* (1962).

• 3 •

1756 Mary (*Frankenstein*) Shelley's father, William Godwin, is born in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. Godwin is best known as the author of *Things as They Are, or The Adventures of Caleb Williams* (1794), which is generally regarded as the first novel of crime and detection. Godwin's book portrays the law as evil—unlike nearly all subsequent fiction in the genre.

1927 Birth of Nicolas Freeling in London. Freeling commits the unthinkable: killing a successful series character. His Inspector Van der Valk is to Amsterdam what Simenon's Maigret is to Paris. The Van der Valk series spans the years 1962 (*Love in Amsterdam*) to 1972 (*Aupres de ma Blonde*). After that, Freeling begins a new series featuring Inspector Henri Castang of the French National Police with *A Dressing of Diamond* (1974).

1948 Max Allan Collins, heir to the mantle of Chester Gould as the writer of "Dick Tracy," is born in Muscatine, Iowa.

• 4 •

1881 T.S. Stribling, author of the charmingly titled *Clues of the Caribbees* (1929), is born in Clifton, Tennessee. Creator

Professor Henry Poggioli (*opposite page*) combs a Haitian beach for clues in this illustration from *Clues of the Caribbees* (1929).

Max Allan Collins, crime writer and successor to Chester Gould as the force behind comic-strip detective Dick Tracy. *Hollander Photographic*

Artist Stephen Peringer has combined two photographs of the murdered woman, a glamour-girl photo and a mug shot, to create a haunting composite in this stunning jacket illustration from one of James Ellroy's best-selling novels. *Design, Paul Gamarello/Warner Books*

of Henry Poggioli, professor of psychology at Ohio State University, Stribling has Poggioli solve a mystery after he himself has died in the well-known story "A Passage to Benares."

1948 Innovative writer James Ellroy is born in Los Angeles. Widely acclaimed as the first author since Hammett, Chandler, and Macdonald to actually do something new with the hard-boiled genre, Ellroy pens extremely tough, psychotically violent Los Angeles police novels set both in the present (*Blood on the Moon*, 1984) and past (*The Black Dahlia*, 1987).

1982 The anarchic comedy series *Police Squad* premieres on ABC. Produced by the creators of the movie parody *Airplane!*, the series stars Leslie Nielsen as the stonefaced Detective Frank Drebin. While the show doesn't last the season, the series spawns the 1988 blockbuster film *The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad!*

• 5 •

1936 Allen J. Hubin, who in 1967 founds *The Armchair Detective*, is born in Crosby, Minnesota. This quarterly journal is devoted to critical analysis of the mystery genre. His *Crime Fiction 1749–1980. A Comprehensive Bibliography* is the definitive reference work in the field.

Surprisingly, Edgar Allan Poe regarded himself as primarily a poet, not as a writer of short stories
Mathew Brady/Library of Congress

•6•

1831 Edgar Allan Poe, class of 1834, is expelled from West Point for "disobedience of orders" and "gross neglect of duty."

1915 Birth of Thomas B. Dewey in Elkhart, Indiana. His private-eye hero, known only as Mac, is featured in fifteen novels, including *The Mean Streets* (1955), which was called "the best fictional account yet on juvenile delinquency" by Dorothy B. Hughes

•7•

1922 Sara Woods, also known as Sara Bowen-Judd, is born in Bradford, Yorkshire. Her Golden Age–style mysteries featuring barrister Antony Maitland provide a multitude of clues for the adroit reader who delights in beating the detective to the punch

•8•

•9•

1918 Mickey Spillane, author of seven of the ten best-selling crime novels of all time, is born in Brooklyn. Spillane's phenomenally popular private eye Mike Hammer debuts in *I,*

the Jury (1947)—in which he shoots his lover in the gut and watches her die. When she asks "How could you?" he answers, "It was easy."

• 10 •

1929 The first Philo Vance film, *The Canary Murder Case*, is released. Malcolm St. Clair directs; William Powell plays Vance.

• 11 •

1921 Elizabeth Linington is born in Aurora, Illinois. Best known under her pseudonym Dell Shannon, Linington is the creator of Lt. Luis Mendoza, whose dashing mustache and skill at poker make him irresistible to women readers. Under her own name, she writes a series about the detective squad at Hollywood's Wilcox Avenue police station (*Greenmask*, 1964).

1970 Erle Stanley Gardner dies in Temecula, California. One of the best-selling mystery novelists of all time, Gardner is the creator of Speed Dash, the human fly; Sidney Zoom and his police dog, Rip, Hard Rock Hogan; and the Patent Leather Kid—as well as a lawyer named Perry Mason.

• 12 •

1868 Birth of Victor L. Whitechurch. His *Thrilling Stories of the Railway* (1912) contains fifteen stories, nine of which are from the casebook of Thorpe Hazell—a vegetarian and health nut. He also contributes to the Detection Club's *The Floating Admiral* (1932).

1912 Birth of Gordon Gordon in Anderson, Indiana. Gordon is half of the popular writing team "the Gordons," along with his wife, Mildred. Blake Edwards's 1962 film *Experiment in Terror* is based on their 1961 novel *Operation Terror*, and their novel *Undercover Cat* (1963) is made into the classic Disney caper *That Darn Cat*—starring Dean Jones and Hayley Mills—in 1965.

• 13 •

1919 *The Times-Picayune* receives a letter ostensibly written by the infamous "Axeman of New Orleans," who has already racked up several killings in the city. The letter says that on March 19 the Axeman will be killing at random, but promises to pass over all homes where jazz music can be heard. Needless to say, New Orleans rocks that day—and no Axeman killings occur.

• 14 •

1869 Algernon Blackwood, who authors supernatural and mystical short stories, is born in Kent, England. His collec-

tion *John Silence* (1908) is about a psychic physician called upon to solve occult crimes.

1933 Actor Michael Caine is born in London. Incredibly versatile, Caine appears in numerous mystery and espionage films: *Sleuth* (1972), *Deathtrap* (1982), and *The Fourth Protocol* (1987). His best-known contribution to the genre, though, is his portrayal of Len Deighton's spy Harry Palmer in the Cold War trilogy *The Ipcress File* (1965), *Funeral in Berlin* (1966), and *The Billion Dollar Brain* (1967).

• 15 •

44 B.C. The Ides of March. Julius Caesar, dictator of Rome, is assassinated by his senators, led by Brutus and Cassius.

1902 Lillian Bueno McCue is born in New York City. Written under the pseudonym Lillian de la Torre, her *Dr. Sam Johnson: Detector* (1946) introduces the famous eighteenth-century critic as detective, with James Boswell playing Watson to Johnson's Holmes.

1931 Thomas E. Dewey is sworn in as assistant U.S. attorney in New York City. He becomes the nemesis of organized crime in New York.

• 16 •

1943 *Cabin B-13*, a tale of intrigue at sea by John Dickson Carr, is broadcast on the popular radio show *Suspense*. In the early 1950s, Carr (writing all the scripts), expands the story for CBS Radio into a series with the same name. The "cabin" is the quarters where the ship's doctor (played by Arnold Moss) tells odd tales about impossible crimes set in exotic ports.

Caesar's corpse lies at the foot of Pompey's statue. His trusted ally Brutus, in a conspiracy with sixty others, assassinated him in 44 B.C. *New York Public Library*

Ernest Bramah (*top*) turned to writing after proving a failure at his first profession of farming. His first book was entitled *English Farming and Why I Turned it Up*; below, art from the cover of the first and only Max Carrados novel, published in 1914, and from the jacket of a 1923 short story collection

•17•

1904 Birth of Patrick Hamilton in Hassocks, Sussex. *Rope*, Hamilton's stage play based on the Leopold-Loeb case, becomes Alfred Hitchcock's innovative film of the same name. His play *Angel Street* is made into George Cukor's famous 1944 film *Gaslight*, in which Charles Boyer attempts to convince wife Ingrid Bergman that she is insane.

•18•

1915 Byzantine, off beat thrillers are the trademarks of Richard Condon, born in New York City. Called a satirist—for lack of a better term—his paranoid thriller *The Manchurian Candidate* (1959) introduces readers to his bizarre world, where established institutions are not what they seem. *Prizzi's Honor* (1982), the screenplay he based on his own novel, is a wacky look at a Brooklyn Mafia family, and was filmed in 1985 by John Huston.

•19•

1927 Ruth Brown Snyder and Henry Judd Gray carry out the murder of Snyder's husband, Albert, but when confronted by the police, the two lovers immediately turn on each other. In a tribute to the perpetrators' coolness under fire, reporter Damon Runyon dubs the case the "Dumbbell Murder."

•20•

1868 Ernest Bramah, creator of Max Carrados, the first and best blind fictional detective, and Kai Lung, a Chinese storyteller, is born in Manchester, England. Ellery Queen calls the first Carrados collection, *Max Carrados* (1914), "one of the ten best volumes of detective shorts ever written." Bramah gives Carrados many bizarre talents; among other things, the detective can read newspaper headlines with his fingertips.

1941 Bulldog Drummond, quintessential clubland hero, makes his debut on the Mutual radio network.

•21•

1907 David Alexander, whose eight novels are expert portrayals of New York's Times Square in the 1950s, is born in Shelbyville, Kentucky. The first novel, *Terror on Broadway* (1954), features a Ripper-style killer who leaves calling cards on his victims reading "Compliments of Waldo," and who is later vanquished by Alexander's series' newspaper columnist-detective, Bart Hardin of *The Broadway Times*.

•22•

1921 E.W. Hornung, creator of A.J. Raffles—amateur cracksman and devotee of Sullivans cigarettes—dies at Saint-

Jean-de-Luz. Hornung created the famed gentleman jewel thief largely to tweak the nose of his more conservative brother-in-law, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

•23•

1952 Frederick M.P. Knott's play *Dial M for Murder*, which is eventually made into a 3-D film by Alfred Hitchcock, begins its life as a BBC-TV drama.

1964 Peter Lorre (born Laszlo Löwenstein) dies in Hollywood. Among his classic film performances are his portrayal of a child murderer in Fritz Lang's *M* (1931), the homosexual Joel Cairo in *The Maltese Falcon* (1941), and the nefarious Dr. Einstein in *Arsenic and Old Lace* (1944).

•24•

1916 Donald Hamilton, a hard-boiled American answer to Ian Fleming, is born in Uppsala, Sweden. Hamilton creates the Matt Helm series, but the realism of the novels is forfeited for high camp in the film series starring Dean Martin.

•25•

1903 Mabel Seeley is born in Minneapolis. Her most famous novel, *The Listening House* (1938), uses her experience as a department store copywriter to create a realistic and self-sufficient heroine who gets involved with murder.

•26•

1916 Robert Stroud, who later becomes famous as the Birdman of Alcatraz stabs a guard to death while serving a life sentence for murder in Leavenworth. This new killing earns him a cell in escape-proof Alcatraz, from which he will write his volumes on ornithology.

1959 Raymond Chandler dies. Poet W.H. Auden wrote, "Mr. Chandler is interested in writing not detective stories but serious studies of a criminal milieu, the Great Wrong Place, and his powerful but extremely depressing books should be read and judged not as escape literature but as works of art."

•27•

1908 Joan Fleming is born in Horwich, Lancashire. Fleming's novels are similar to Patricia Highsmith's and concentrate on the psychological reactions of her characters rather than on the traditional detectives' investigation. In her unusual pair of novels featuring Turkish detective Nuri Iskirlak, she introduces Eastern philosophies to her character's Western attitudes

Raymond Chandler, master of hard-boiled detective writing and creator of Philip Marlowe, the classic hard-living but honorable PI. *John Engstead*

•28•

1912 Birth of Lucille Fletcher in Brooklyn. Fletcher writes radio plays for the classic CBS show *Suspense Theater*, the most famous being *Sorry, Wrong Number* (1948), the chilling tale of an invalid who overhears her husband's plans to kill her.

•29•

•30•

1956 E.C. Bentley, creator of Philip Trent, dies. Trent is one of the first fictional amateur detectives to get the answer *wrong*. With *Trent's Last Case* (1912), Bentley essentially invents the naturalist school of detective fiction. His middle name is given to a style of doggerel he created—the clerihew

•31•

1939 *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, directed by Sidney Lanfield and starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce as Holmes and Watson is released. The most famous of all Holmes films, *The Hound* is the only Rathbone vehicle to adhere closely to the plot of a Conan Doyle tale

April 2. Actor Leo McKern (*left*) as the old Bailey hack Horace Rumpole in the *Mystery!* series *Rumpole of the Bailey*. © *Thames Television*

The jacket from this 1929 short story collection is nearly as busy as one of Edgar Wallace's plots (*above*). After careful scrutiny of the art, it may have been unnecessary to read the book

• 1 •

1875 Edgar Wallace is born in Greenwich, London. Wallace, the author of 173 books and seventeen plays, once wrote a play in four days and a novel over a weekend. His most famous creation is J.G. Reeder, a detective associated with the Public Prosecutor's Office, whose meekness hides a devious mind. Wallace once said "I write to amuse."

• 2 •

1914 Sir Alec Guinness is born in London, England. At one time or another the renowned British character actor has portrayed G.K. Chesterton's Father Brown, John le Carré's George Smiley, and a slew of lovable rogues in the Ealing Studios comedies of the 1940s and 1950s

1920 Jack Webb, creator and star of *Dragnet*, is born in Santa Monica, California. The first realistic police procedural television series, *Dragnet* runs from 1952 to 1959. Its documentary-like quality makes earlier detective programs look melodramatic, although Webb's deadpan style ("Just the facts, ma'am") later becomes the butt of parodists

• 3 •

1893 One of the Scarlet Pimpernel's cinematic representatives, Leslie Howard, is born in London. Howard portrays the Pimpernel in the 1934 film version of Baroness Orczy's novel

Allow us to quote the classic doggerel: "Is he in Heaven? Or is he in Hell? That demned, elusive Pimpernel?"

1936 Bruno Richard Hauptmann—still claiming innocence in the Lindbergh kidnapping and murder case—is executed in the electric chair in New Jersey State Prison.

1936 Reginald Hill is born in County Durham, England. His novels featuring Superintendent Andrew Dalziel and Sergeant Peter Pascoe (*Deadheads*, 1984) stand out for their literate yet bawdy and robust flavor. As Patrick Ruell, Hill writes romantic suspense thrillers (*Death of a Dormouse*, 1987) that are as intellectually satisfying as they are entertaining.

•4•

•5•

1834 Frank Stockton, who wrote the mystery with no answer, is born in Philadelphia. His famous short story "The Lady or the Tiger?" forces readers to be the detective and draw their own conclusion about what is behind a door

Sir Alec Guinness appearing as G.K Chesterton's Father Brown in the 1954 film *The Detective*. The original British title was, reasonably enough, *Father Brown*. *Copyright © 1954, Renewed 1982, Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. All rights reserved*

1874 Lee Thayer, at age ninety-two the oldest author to publish a mystery novel—*Dusty Death* (1966)—is born in Troy, Pennsylvania. An artist as well as a writer, Thayer publishes sixty mysteries during her career, starting with *The Mystery of the Thirteenth Floor* (1919). All but one feature sleuth Peter Clancy and his valet, Wiggar.

1917 "I have the heart of a small boy. I keep it in a jar on my desk," says the author of *Psycho* (1959), Robert Bloch, who is born in Chicago on this date. A protégé of H.P. Lovecraft during the *Weird Tales* days, Bloch adapts to a more modern style in his chilling novel of a motelier and his mom.

• 6 •

• 7 •

1914 Henry Kuttner is born in Los Angeles. Kuttner writes several mysteries as Will Garth and Lewis Padgett, and under his own name creates the psychoanalyst-detective Michael Gray. His final novel, *Murder of a Wife* (1958), is published posthumously.

• 8 •

1894 Birth of one of the outstanding American mystery writers of the late 1930s and 1940s, Baynard H. Kendrick, in Philadelphia. One of the founders of the Mystery Writers of America, Kendrick creates extraordinary puzzles for his blind detective, Captain Duncan Maclain, to solve.

1923 Ursula Curtiss, the daughter of mystery writer Helen Reilly, is born in Yonkers, New York. Following in her mother's footsteps, she writes mysteries—but with a twist all her own: She combines elements of the suspense novel and the gothic novel, with detection relegated to the background. *The Wasp* (1963) is generally considered to be her finest work.

• 9 •

1883 The first American magazine devoted entirely to detective fiction, *The Old Captain Collier Library*, is published.

1948 Paramount releases *The Big Clock*, based on Kenneth Fearing's classic mystery novel. Charles Laughton stars as a maniacal magazine publisher who frames his editor, Ray Milland, for the murder of his mistress.

Bill Pronzini's devotion to the hard-boiled won him the Private Eye Writers of America Lifetime Achievement Award at the age of forty-five
Phillippe Laplace/Mysterious Press

• 10 •

1905 The man who writes some of the oddest-titled mysteries ever, Robert Furneaux Jordan, is born in Birmingham, Warwickshire. Under the name Robert Player, he is the author of traditional British mysteries that take place in a world slightly out of kilter. His unconventional novels include

Author and physician R. Austin Freeman, creator of scientific detective Dr. Thorndyke and inventor of the "inverted" detective story. Dr Thorndyke, from a 1908 appearance in *Pearson's* magazine, illustrated by H.M. Brock (*below*)

Oh! Where Are Bloody Mary's Earrings (1972), *Let's Talk of Graves, of Worms, and Epitaphs* (1975), and *The Month of the Mangled Models* (1977).

• 11 •

1862 R. Austin Freeman, the originator of the inverted detective story, is born in London. In *The Singing Bone* (1912) the reader sees the culprit commit the crime, then must concentrate not on "who" but on "how will he be caught." Freeman also creates Dr. Thorndyke, who with his research kit—"the inevitable green case"—seeks clues that will ultimately serve as irrefutable evidence. Not an intuitive detective, Thorndyke approaches each case with emotional detachment and the essential scientific imagination.

1920 The creator of Modesty Blaise, Peter O'Donnell, is born in London. An independent agent working (sometimes) for the British government, Blaise is a female version of James Bond. The character originates in a comic strip in 1963, and the many novels retain a certain outrageous flavor (*Sabre Tooth*, 1966; *Dead Man's Handle*, 1985).

1939 Willard Huntington Wright dies. As S.S. Van Dine, he creates Philo Vance, the most popular detective of the 1920s. Like Vance, Van Dine enjoys his wealth—spending his prodigious writing income as quickly as possible. Although his income is probably one of the largest of any author's during the Depression, he leaves an estate of only $13,000.

1957 Freeman Wills Crofts, creator of Inspector Joseph French (*The Cask*, 1920), dies. Mystery critic Anthony Boucher calls *The Cask* "the definitive novel of alibis, timetables, and all the absorbing hair-splitting of detection." Crofts was the first to employ actual step-by-step police routine in detective fiction.

• 12 •

• 13 •

1943 Prolific author, editor, and critic Bill Pronzini, creator of the "Nameless Detective" (*Shackles*, 1988), is born in Petaluma, California. His analyses of "alternative" mystery fiction, *Gun in Cheek* (1984) and *Son of Gun in Cheek* (1987), are uproarious celebrations of the "best" worst writing in the genre.

• 14 •

1897 Horace McCoy, best known for writing *They Shoot Horses, Don't They* (1935), is born in Pegram, Tennessee. McCoy is a constant contributor to *Black Mask* pulp magazine, as well as a prolific screenwriter of B movies. On the

publication of *Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye* (1948), *Time* magazine calls McCoy a "literary caveman" and calls the book "one of the nastiest novels ever published," ironically leading Warner Bros. to buy the screen rights as a vehicle for James Cagney, who was looking for a "really nasty" role.

1912 The ocean liner *Titanic* strikes an iceberg. Con man Alvin Clarence Thompson, a passenger, escapes in a lifeboat by dressing as a woman and later makes a fortune from the tragedy by submitting fraudulent insurance claims. He becomes known in the underworld as Titanic Thompson.

• 15 •

1908 Birth of Howard Browne in Omaha, Nebraska. Under the pseudonym John Evans he writes *Halo in Blood* (1946), which introduces hard-boiled private eye Paul Pine. After two Evans-written novels Browne begins signing his own name to the Pine books. He is also the author of more than one hundred television plays, from *Playhouse 90* to *Columbo*, as well as the screenplay for *The St. Valentine's Day Massacre.*

1912 Jacques Futrelle, creator of the "Thinking Machine," dies on the *Titanic* after pushing his wife and child onto a lifeboat. The Thinking Machine, also known as Professor S.F.X. Van Dusen, solves "impossible" crimes with the aid of logic and scientific method in such short story collections as *The Thinking Machine* (1907) and *The Thinking Machine on the Case* (1908). Several stories may have gone down with the ship.

• 16 •

1922 Bondophile and mystery writer Kingsley Amis is born in London. A noted British novelist who in 1968 pens the best of the James Bond pastiches, *Colonel Sun* (published under the pseudonym Robert Markham), Amis also authors *The James Bond Dossier* (1964), an irreverent look at 007's fictional career, as well as several mystery novels—including *The Crime of the Century* (1989).

1927 Gaston Leroux, author of the classic thriller *The Phantom of the Opera* (1911) and *The Mystery of the Yellow Room* (1908), dies of uric poisoning

• 17 •

• 18 •

1864 Richard Harding Davis, the most successful reporter of his era, is born in Philadelphia. Davis is also the author of *In the Fog* (1901), which contains three connected short stories with a double surprise ending

1902 Denmark is the first country to officially adopt fingerprinting as the preferred system of criminal identification.

•19•

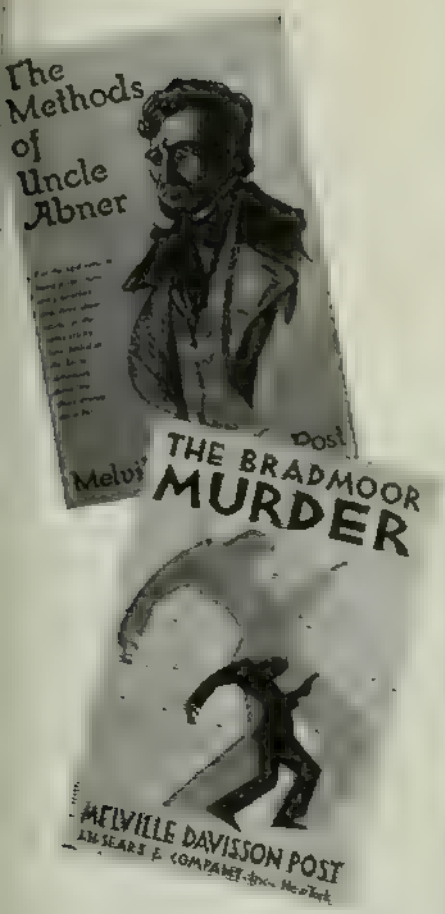
1869 Melville Davisson Post, who creates one of the greatest American detectives, Uncle Abner, is born in Romines Mills, West Virginia. Abner is a figure of moral integrity in 1800s Virginia who does not seek the job of solving crimes, but believes that someone must help God administer justice. He appears in the acclaimed short story collection *Uncle Abner: Master of Mysteries* (1918). Post's shyster-lawyer character, Randolph Mason, gives Erle Stanley Gardner the name for his *honest* lawyer, Perry Mason.

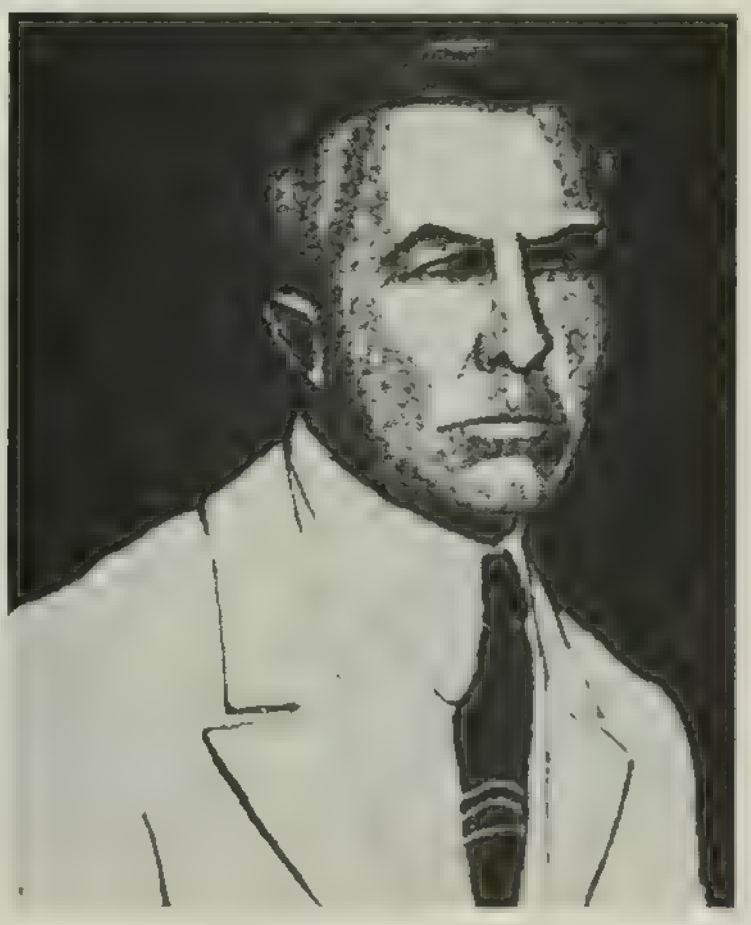
1901 Gladys Mitchell, proponent of the powers of the mind, is born in Cowley, Oxford. Her interest in psychology and the occult is clearly reflected in her novels featuring Dame Beatrice Bradley, psychiatric consultant to the British Home Office, and her *Watson's Choice* (1955) uses the Sherlockian canon as the basis for a party game that ends in murder

•20•

•21•

1923 A barrister since 1948 and creator of the henpecked lawyer Horace Rumpole, John Mortimer is born in





Portrait of author Melville Davisson Post by Enid Schantz, from the 1974 collection *The Methods of Uncle Abner (right)*. Enid Schantz's depiction of Abner, from the 1974 collection (*top*); strong graphics from the jacket of Post's 1929 novel featuring Sir Henry Marquis of Scotland Yard—a detective who moonlights as the director of the British Secret Service in Asia

Hampstead, London. Rumpole of the Bailey is a pudgy yet mellifluous and talented defense lawyer whose domineering wife, Hilda, has been dubbed by him She-Who-Must-Be-Obeyed. Rumpole first appears in British teleplays portrayed by Leo McKern, but due to the character's popularity the story collections quickly follow.

• 22 •

1912 Bram Stoker, author of the brilliant *Dracula* (filmed most notably by Tod Browning in 1931) and the abysmal *Lair of the White Worm* (campily filmed by Ken Russell in 1985), dies.

1948 *Barney Blake, Police Reporter* premieres on NBC television. The network claims this show is the first regularly scheduled television mystery series.

• 23 •

1899 Ngaio Marsh is born in Christchurch, New Zealand. Marsh is the creator of the urbane Superintendent Roderick Alleyn, whose many Golden Age cases include *Overture to Death* (1939) and *Death of a Peer* (1940). Along with Allingham, Innes, Sayers, and Christie, she brought the traditional English detective novel to the popularity it continues to enjoy today.

Edward van Sloan as Professor van Holsing confronts Bela Lugosi (*right*) in Tod Browning's 1931 classic *Dracula*. *Copyright © by Universal Pictures, a Division of Universal City Studios, Inc. Courtesy of MCA Publishing Rights, a Division of MCA Inc.*

Ngaio Marsh was a playwright and actress before turning to mystery writing. She continued to work in the theater, mainly as a director, until her death in 1982

•24•

1933 The first radio series based on Sax Rohmer's Fu Manchu, starring John C. Daly as the devil doctor, broadcasts its last program.

•25•

1907 Holmesian scholar Michael Harrison is born in Milton, Kent. Mainly a writer about mystery fiction, his *In the Footsteps of Sherlock Holmes* (1960) is so successful in evoking Victorian London that he is given a special award by the Baker Street Irregulars. His famous article "A Study in Surmise" (*Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, 1971) is described by Ellery Queen as "the most important Sherlockian scholarship in forty years." Harrison is also the author of a series of pastiches featuring Poe's famous detective C. Auguste Dupin.

1915 Pulp writer Richard Deming is born in Des Moines Deming tries his hand at three mystery novels featuring his series detective Manny Moon—tough, quick-witted, and equipped with an artificial leg.

•26•

1980 After more than a decade as America's most popular Hawaiian TV series, *Hawaii Five-O* airs its final episode Detective Steve McGarrett finally hangs up his flowered shirt and hangs ten into the sunset

•27•

1863 Cleveland Moffett, king of the promotional gimmick, is born in Boonville, New York. Moffett is best known for *The Mysterious Card* (1896), which contained this special feature when first published: the final chapter was glued shut, and the purchaser was promised a refund if the book was returned with the seal unbroken.

1904 Poet laureate of Great Britain and mystery writer C. Day-Lewis is born in Ireland. As Nicholas Blake, he is the author of the Nigel Strangeways series (*The Beast Must Die*, 1938; *The Corpse in the Snowman*, 1941).

1907 Birth of James Holding in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Prolific short story writer whose unusual detective, Hal Johnson the Library Fuzz, comes across murders while tracking down overdue library books.

England's poet laureate from 1968 until his death in 1972, C. Day-Lewis wrote detective fiction under the name Nicholas Blake. *New York Public Library*

Anthony Boucher brought news of new mysteries to the readers of the *New York Times Book Review* in his Criminals at Large column.

•28•

1874 Sidney Toler, the second actor to portray Charlie Chan on film, is born in Warrensburg, Missouri. After the death of Warner Oland, the best Chan, Toler is passed the torch, white suit, and sons in 1938.

•29•

•30•

1949 *D.O.A.* opens, starring Edmond O'Brien as Frank Bigelow, a man dosed with a slow-acting poison who has only twenty-four hours to find his own killer. *D.O.A.* is inspired by a 1931 German film, *Der Mann, der seinen Mörder sucht*, which was directed by Robert Siodmak—who later emigrated to Hollywood to direct several classic noir films.

1968 Critic, editor, scholar, and novelist (*Nine Times Nine*, 1940) Anthony Boucher (born William Anthony Parker White) dies. Boucher occasionally used the pseudonym H.H. Holmes—a famous murderer of the late nineteenth century.

May 2 Ronald Colman (*right*) in *Bulldog Drummond* (1929). Nefarious villains delighted in tying Bulldog up and watching him thrash impotently as they tortured the heroine.

MAY

• 1 •

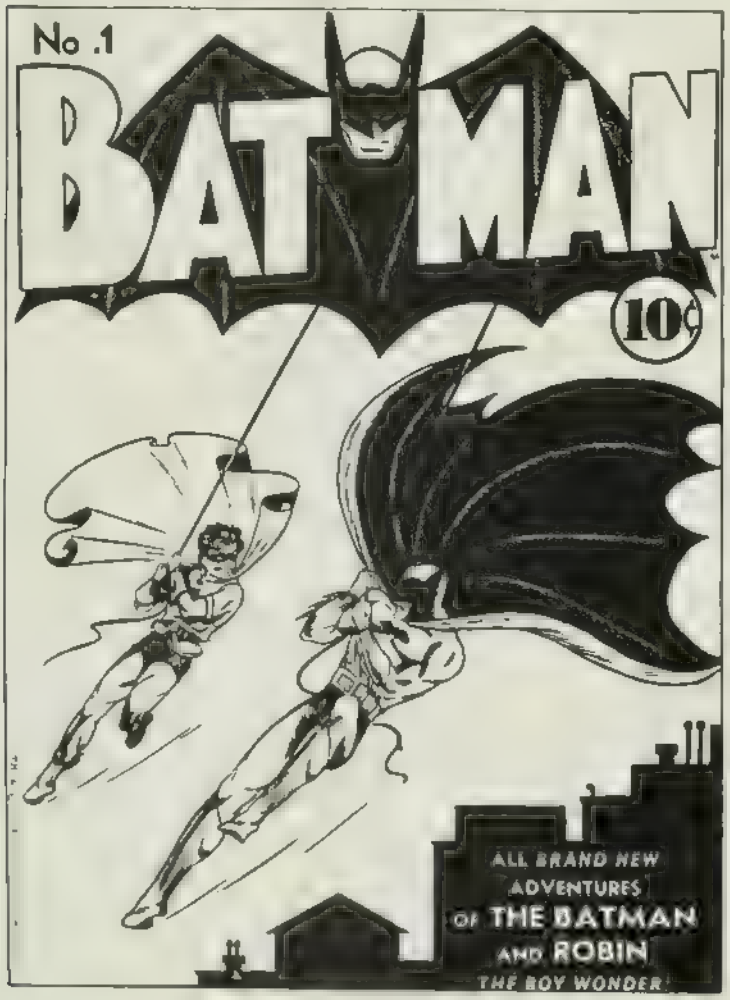
1915 French mass murderer Henri Landru takes out his first lovelorn ad in the Parisian newspaper *Le Journal* and in this fashion the "French Bluebeard" lures ten known victims to their death

1936 Alvin Karpis, who follows John Dillinger as "Public Enemy Number One," is captured in New Orleans by J. Edgar Hoover and a small army of G-men. Sentenced to life imprisonment at Alcatraz, he is eventually released. Karpis dies in Europe in 1979

1939 Batman, the first and best known of the costumed comic book heroes to utilize detective skills in addition to fisticuffs, debuts in issue 27 of *Detective Comics* in a story entitled "The Case of the Chemical Syndicate." In the tale "the Batman" battles Alfred Stryker, a business executive turned murderer, finally tossing him into a vat of acid and leaving him with the epitaph "A fitting end for his kind." Batman would become less grim as the years passed

• 2 •

1905 Birth of Charlotte Armstrong in Vulcan, Michigan. An Edgar Award winner for her 1956 *A Dram of Poison*,



Batman's vengeful streak gave the caped crusader a much darker persona than other superheroes to come out of the 1930s and 1940s comic book renaissance. *D C. Comics*

Reichenbach Falls *Scott and Sheri Bond*

Armstrong is described by Anthony Boucher as "one of the few authentic spell-casting witches of modern time." Her 1950 novel *Mischief* is filmed in 1952 as *Don't Bother to Knock*—the first starring role for Marilyn Monroe, and Anne Bancroft's film debut.

1929 *Bulldog Drummond*, the first Drummond movie, is released F Richard Jones directs, Ronald Colman and Joan Bennett star.

1946 *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, directed by Tay Garnett and starring John Garfield and Lana Turner, opens Despite the censors a good deal of the simmering sexuality of the James M. Cain novel is preserved—due to the performance of the "Sweater Girl."

1946 The inmates of the infamous Alcatraz prison revolt. Two platoons of marines armed with machine guns, bazookas, and tear gas are necessary before the convicts surrender. The mutiny lasts two days; two guards and three inmates are killed

• 3 •

1901 John Collier, whose short stories of the bizarre, fantastic, and mysterious are unlike anything else in modern fiction, is born in London. His best (and largest) collection, *Fancies and Goodnights* (1951), is included in *Queen's Quorum*. Collier first achieves popularity when Dashiell Hammett includes "Green Thoughts" in his 1931 anthology of short horror fiction, *Creeps by Night*.

• 4 •

1891 Sherlock Holmes meets his nemesis Professor Moriarty in a struggle to the death at the Reichenbach Falls in Switzerland in Conan Doyle's "The Final Problem." The evenly matched adversaries fall over the cliff, locked in a deadly embrace. Both are reported dead.

1942 In a move truly mysterious, Edgar Allan Poe's detective C. Auguste Dupin becomes Dr. Paul Dupin in Phil Rosen's movie *The Mystery of Marie Roget*, released on this date. Starring Maria Montez as Marie and Patric Knowles as Dupin, the movie receives less than enthusiastic reviews. Bosley Crowther, writing in *The New York Times*, calls it "a butchered retelling . . . vaguely it leaves the impression of wretched futility."

• 5 •

1920 Shoemaker Nicola Sacco and fish peddler Bartolomeo Vanzetti are arrested in South Braintree, Massachusetts, and charged with the April 15 robbery and murders at the Slater and Morrill shoe factory With only circumstantial evidence presented against them, they are convicted and sentenced to execution—primarily because of their immigrant back-

ground and anarchist politics. Despite worldwide sentiment for them—they are one of the century's greatest judicial causes célèbres—both men are electrocuted at Charlestown Prison on August 23, 1927

• 6 •

1879 Max Marcin, who co-authors the successful play *The House of Glass* (1915) with George M. Cohan, is born in Posen, Germany (now Poznań, Poland). In 1940 he creates Robert Ordway, the popular radio character known to millions as the Crime Doctor. Psychiatrist-detective Ordway's investigations into cases involving the mentally aberrant become a series of B pictures from 1943 to 1949

1915 A master at portraying uniquely evil characters, Orson Welles is born in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Among his best performances in movies of suspense or espionage are profiteer Harry Lime in *The Third Man* (1949), Colonel Haki of the Turkish Secret Police in *Journey Into Fear* (1942), and a Nazi incognito in small-town America in *The Stranger* (1946)

• 7 •

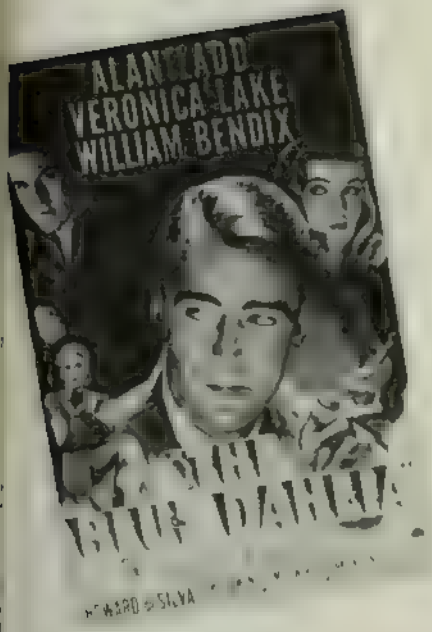
1922 *Sherlock Holmes*—the first American Holmes film with an all-star cast—is released. John Barrymore portrays the

The handsome John Barrymore (*left*) as Holmes disarms Moriarty (Gustav von Seyffertitz) in the 1922 film *Sherlock Holmes*

title character, famed silent film heavy Gustav von Seyffertitz plays Professor Moriarty, and a young Hedda Hopper has a small role. Hopper's performance "gives a definite impression," says *The New York Times*.

1942 Alfred Hitchcock's *Saboteur*, starring Robert Cummings and Priscilla Lane, opens. Not to be confused with the master's earlier, superior British film *Sabotage*, *Saboteur* is best remembered for its breathless climax atop the Statue of Liberty. Many of the film's bon mots are supplied by wit Dorothy Parker, who contributes to the screenplay.

1945 Famed robber Willie "the Actor" Sutton tunnels his way out of a state penitentiary in Philadelphia, but unfortunately emerges a few feet away from a pair of Philly beat cops, who immediately rearrest him.



Promotional poster for *The Blue Dahlia*. The film's themes of amnesia and helplessness define its status as a noir classic. *Copyright © by Universal Pictures, a Division of Universal City Studios, Inc. Courtesy of MCA Publishing Rights, a Division of MCA Inc.*

•8•

1946 *The Blue Dahlia*, directed by George Marshall from a screenplay by Raymond Chandler, starring Alan Ladd and Veronica Lake, is released. Chandler's agreement with Paramount includes the condition that he be allowed to write the script at home, while drunk.

•9•

1932 Gavin Lyall, RAF pilot turned thriller writer, is born in Birmingham, England. Lyall uses his aviation background to write international thrillers in the John Buchan vein (*Midnight Plus One*, 1965). His later espionage novels featuring Major Harry Maxim (*The Crocus List*, 1985) are traditional British spy tales told with a light touch.

•10•

1930 Edward L. Stratemeyer, who founded the legendary Stratemeyer Syndicate, dies. "The Factory," as it was known, churned out hundreds of children's mystery and adventure novels in its heyday and gave young Americans their first taste of mystery fiction with the endless exploits of the Hardy Boys, Nancy Drew, Tom Swift, the Rover Boys, the Bobbsey Twins, and other wholesome youth-sleuths.

•11•

1892 Margaret Rutherford, four times film's Miss Marple, is born in London. A popular British character actress whose contribution to the mystery world is her portrayal of Christie's greatest "little old lady" detective, Rutherford's heyday was the 1960s.

•12•

1881 Achmed Abdullah, ne Alexander Nicholayevitch Romanoff, is born in Yalta. Author of a popular series of adventure novels in the 1910s and 1920s, his most renowned work is

The Thief of Bagdad (1924), the source of the classic Douglas Fairbanks film

1907 Leslie Charteris, creator of Simon Templar, better known as the Saint, is born in Singapore. Born Leslie Charles Bowyer Yin, his mother was English and his father was a Chinese physician and a direct descendant of the emperors of the Shang Dynasty. In 1926 he adopts the name Charteris because of his admiration for Colonel Francis Charteris, the notorious gambler, duelist, rogue, and founder of the Hellfire Club. From the Saint's first appearance in *Meet the Tiger* (1928), the modern Robin Hood was an enormous success in novels, radio, comic strips, films, and television. As a youth, Charteris produced and illustrated his own magazine. One of his stick-figure drawings eventually became the internationally known calling card of the Saint

Leslie Charteris, the creator of Simon Templar, after Raffles the best known of all fictional professional rogues; inset, the Saint's calling card

• 13 •

1907 Daphne du Maurier, mistress of macabre gothic novels of romantic suspense, is born in London. Several novels become classic films, including Alfred Hitchcock's *Jamaica Inn* (1939), *Rebecca* (1940), and *The Birds* (1963). Her 1971 novel *Don't Look Now* became Nicolas Roeg's weird 1973 film starring Donald Sutherland and Julie Christie

1942 Alan Ladd stars as the psycho assassin Philip Raven in the film version of Graham Greene's *This Gun for Hire*

1948 *The Iron Curtain*, directed by William A. Wellman, starring Dana Andrews and Gene Tierney, is released. "Hollywood fired its first shot in the cold war yesterday, and they're ready to fight it out to the last sneer. . . . A highly inflammatory film," commented Bosley Crowther in *The New York Times*

• 14 •

1818 Matthew Gregory Lewis, whose gothic thriller *The Monk* (1795) creates a scandal in late eighteenth-century England due to its excessive blood, sacrilege, murder, and "immorality," dies at sea

• 15 •

1926 The multifaceted Shaffer brothers, Anthony and Peter, are born in Liverpool, England. Best known for their work, separately and together, for the stage and screen, they collaborate on three detective novels in the 1950s under the name Peter Anthony. Anthony writes the hit Broadway thriller *Sleuth* (1970) and the screenplay for Alfred Hitchcock's *Frenzy* (1972) and Sidney Lumet's *Murder on the Orient Express* (1974), while Peter becomes most famous for his plays *Equus* (1974) and *Amadeus* (1979)

1961 *Whispering Smith*, starring Audie Murphy as Tom

"Whispering" Smith—the first TV police detective to incorporate modern methods of analysis and apprehension into the practice of law enforcement in the Old West—premieres.

• 16 •

1937 Thomas Gifford, author of *The Wind Chill Factor* (1975), the best thriller in the "Resurrected Nazi" genre, is born in Dubuque, Iowa. Some of his later superb novels of suspense are *The Glendower Legacy* (1978) and *The Assassini* (1990).

1956 Alfred Hitchcock's second version of *The Man Who Knew Too Much*, starring James Stewart and Doris Day, is released. This film nets Hitchcock one of the few Oscars awarded to his works—for Doris Day's stirring rendition of "Que Sera, Sera."

• 17 •

1904 Internationally famous French actor Jean Gabin is born in Paris. His portrayal of Inspector Jules Maigret (in three films, including *Inspector Maigret* in 1958) is closest to the character in the original Georges Simenon novels. In 1937 Gabin stars in the first film version of the life of French gangster Pepe Le Moko, remade in Hollywood the following year as *Algiers*, starring Charles Boyer.

Daphne du Maurier's novels and the films made from them, including *Rebecca* and *Jamaica Inn*, skillfully combine the mysterious with romance and history.

1950 Nicholas Ray's noir masterpiece *In a Lonely Place*, starring Humphrey Bogart and Gloria Grahame, based on the novel by Dorothy B. Hughes, is released

•18•

1909 Phoebe Atwood Taylor (aka Alice Tilton), creator of the popular Leonidas Witherall mysteries *Beginning with a Bash* (1937) and *Dead Ernest* (1944), is born in Boston Leonidas, a prep-school headmaster whose resemblance to William Shakespeare leads waggish friends to call him Bill, is a pompous cynic whose misadventures bring chaos to Tilton's mythical New England suburbs

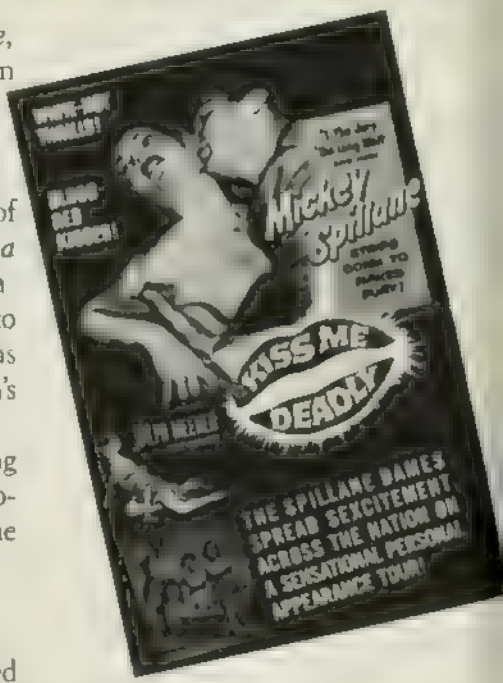
1955 Robert Aldrich's *Kiss Me Deadly* is released. Starring Ralph Meeker as Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer, this violent and expressionistic thriller is easily the best of the Spillane film adaptations

•19•

1932 Paul E. Erdman, Swiss banker turned jailbird turned mystery writer, is born in Stratford, Ontario. The result of his first prison writing attempt is the Edgar-winning financial mystery *The Billion Dollar Sure Thing* (1973), and his next novel, *The Silver Bears* (1975), is a fictionalized version of the events that led to his imprisonment

•20•

1904 Margery Allingham is born in London. Allingham creates Albert Campion, originally intended as a clever up-


Mickey Spillane
KISS ME DEADLY
THE SPILLANE DAMES SPREAD SEXCITEMENT ACROSS THE NATION ON A SENSATIONAL PERSONAL APPEARANCE TOUR!

Ralph Meeker as Mike Hammer cozies up to a bedspread in *Kiss Me Deadly* (1955); inset, the promotional poster was a sure lure for 1955 movie audiences on the prowl for a little Saturday night sexcitement. © *Parklane Pictures, Inc. Renewed 1983 United Artists Corporation. All rights reserved*

date of the Scarlet Pimpernel. In the earlier novels, such as *The Crime at Black Dudley* (1929), Campion's character is a Bertie Woosterish clown, but eventually Campion matures and becomes a mouthpiece for Allingham's social conscience (*The Tiger in the Smoke*, 1952)

1933 The first radio series based on Earl Derr Biggers's character Charlie Chan sees its last broadcast. Walter Connolly plays the title role.

1956 Stanley Kubrick's *The Killing*, from Lionel White's novel *Clean Break*, is released, starring Sterling Hayden as the mastermind behind an elaborate racetrack robbery. Kubrick cowrites the screenplay with novelist Jim Thompson.

• 21 •

1917 Raymond Burr, who creates Erle Stanley Gardner's Perry Mason in the still-popular 1950s and 1960s television series, is born in New Westminster, British Columbia. He follows *Perry Mason* with the late 1960s and 1970s hit *Ironside*, about a crippled police chief. The actor also appears as the mysterious wife killer in Hitchcock's *Rear Window* (1952).

Daughter of two professional writers, Margery Allingham published her first novel as a teenager—and later married her dust jacket designer

1924 In an attempt to commit the perfect crime, University of Chicago honor students Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb kidnap and murder fourteen-year-old Bobbie Franks. Alfred Hitchcock's 1948 film *Rope* is based on this case

1958 *Touch of Evil*, a dark tale of a psychopathic cop in a dangerous Mexican border town, one of Orson Welles's masterpieces, opens

1989 *Miami Vice*, the definitive 1980s cop TV series, ends its five-year run on NBC. The show makes a star of Don Johnson, revitalizes Miami tourist trade, and creates a fashion craze for pastel T-shirts worn with oversize Italian sport jackets.

•22•

1859 The man to whom the world owes Sherlock Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle, is born in Edinburgh. One of the great Victorians, Conan Doyle publishes more than fifty books on a wide variety of subjects. In Holmes and Watson, he creates two of the most memorable and best-loved characters in all literature. Conan Doyle also writes the classic science fiction adventure *The Lost World*. In his public life he serves as a field physician in the Boer War and in World War I, campaigning vigorously against legal and international injustice and introducing skis to Switzerland. Toward the end of his life he lectures throughout the world on the subject of spiritualism.

1885 Victor Hugo, author of the historic French novel *Les Misérables*, dies. The novel tells the story of fugitive Jean

The middle-aged Sir Arthur Conan Doyle sporting a mustache that would make Hercule Poirot proud

Private eye Paul Drake (William Hopper, *left*) confers with Perry Mason (Raymond Burr) in an episode from television's longest-running lawyer-detective series

Valjean, who is relentlessly pursued by Inspector Javert for the crime of stealing a loaf of bread.

1966 The 271st—and final—episode of *Perry Mason*, starring Raymond Burr, is broadcast. The episode is titled "The Final Fadeout." Burr brought the character back in occasional TV movies in the 1980s

• 23 •

1934 Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow are ambushed by Texas Rangers outside Gibsland, Louisiana. The posse rakes the legendary bandits with hundreds of bullets, killing them in their roadster. At the time of death Bonnie is eating a bologna sandwich, Clyde is shoeless—having been driving in his socks.

• 24 •

1952 Obsessive one-up man Anthony Abbot (born Fulton Oursler) dies. His mystery novels featuring New York police commissioner Thatcher Colt have titles that usually begin with the word "about" (*About the Murder of the Nightclub Lady*, 1931), so that the books will be first on library lists.

Dashiell Hammett, the Thin Man himself, arrives in Hollywood, circa 1940. *Springer/The Bettman Archive*

•25•

1927 Robert Ludlum, best-selling author of complex, convoluted conspiracy thrillers, is born in New York. His novels (*Osterman Weekend*, 1972; *The Icarus Agenda*, 1988) usually feature "the ordinary man in extraordinary circumstances,"—involved with apocalyptic secrets, plots, and villains.

1932 The outspoken journalist, social critic, and novelist John Gregory Dunne is born in New York. His *True Confessions* (1975) is ostensibly based on the infamous "Black Dahlia" murder case, but is actually an indictment of corruption in Los Angeles city government and in the Roman Catholic church.

•26•

1894 Paul Lukas (né Pal Lukàcs) is born in Budapest. Best known for his Oscar-winning role in *Watch on the Rhine* (1943), Lukas also played Philo Vance in the 1935 movie *The Casino Murder Case*.

•27•

1894 Dashiell Hammett, the most important member of the hard-boiled school of fiction, is born in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Hammett develops the first truly American detective style, preceded only by Carroll John Daly's work in *Black*

Mask magazine. His experiences as a Pinkerton operative lead to the creation of the Continental Op, hero of *Red Harvest* (1929), *The Dain Curse* (1929), and a slew of short stories. The Op is followed by Sam Spade in *The Maltese Falcon* (1930) and Ned Beaumont in *The Glass Key* (1931). While working as a Hollywood screenwriter, he publishes the humorous exploits of society couple Nick and Nora Charles in *The Thin Man* (1934). Hammett's style has been imitated for more than half a century, primarily because, as Raymond Chandler wrote, "He gave murder back to the kind of people who commit it for reasons, not just to provide a corpse; and with the means at hand, not hand-wrought duelling pistols, curare, and tropical fish."

1925 Tony Hillerman is born in Sacred Heart, Oklahoma. Raised among Native Americans, Hillerman writes mysteries featuring Lt. Joe Leaphorn and Sgt. Jim Chee, which reflect his knowledge and love of Navajo mythology and culture. His Edgar-winning *Dance Hall of the Dead* (1973) incorporates authentic Zuñi ceremonial detail into the plot.

A book club edition of three Tony Hillerman mysteries featuring Joe Leaphorn. *Sandie Benedicto/Book-of-the-Month Club*

•28•

1874 British man of letters, artist, poet, journalist, critic, essayist, and novelist G.K. Chesterton is born in London. Chesterton's most enduring works are the mystery tales featuring a small, unassuming Roman Catholic priest named Father Brown. One of the great detective creations of all time, Brown utilizes a profound knowledge of human nature and evil to solve macabre mysteries. Believing that the worst villains can be reformed, the detective's greatest success is with the French master criminal Flambeau—an imposing and brilliant thief who is bested by the priest in "The Blue Cross" (1911), the first of the stories, and again in "The Flying Stars" (1911). While the tales border on the fantastic and often infuriate fans of traditional puzzles, Chesterton always exhibits good humor, love of paradox, and a fine sense of the absurd.

1908 Ian Fleming is born in London. A former journalist and British Intelligence agent, Fleming creates the James Bond thrillers simply to earn money, and by the time of his death in 1964 he has earned approximately $3 million from the books alone. The adventures of Agent 007 begin in 1953 with *Casino Royale* and appear annually. After President Kennedy announces that one of his favorite novels is *From Russia, with Love* (1957) the series achieves its first huge success. The urbane, indestructible Bond is quickly optioned by moviedom and the continuing success of the films have made Fleming's creation the most popular hero of the late twentieth century.

1954 *Dial M for Murder*, Alfred Hitchcock's film starring Ray Milland, Grace Kelly, and John Willams, is released. Based on the Frederick Knott play, the film is withdrawn from theaters and subjected to the then-popular 3-D treatment, with scenes added to showcase the process.

1958 Alfred Hitchcock's *Vertigo*, starring James Stewart and Kim Novak, is released. Hitchcock's study of obsessive necrophilia makes this film his masterpiece.

•29•

1893 Frederick Faust, creator of Dr. Kildare, is born in Seattle. As Max Brand, he writes mysteries and westerns, becoming a constant contributor to the pulps in the 1920s and 1930s, writing within virtually every genre of popular fiction.

1963 The first James Bond movie, *Dr. No* (starring Sean Connery and Ursula Andress), is released. Bosley Crowther of *The New York Times* calls this one "natty, naughty, and nifty."

•30•

1902 George Sims, author of absolutely the toughest tough-guy novel ever written, is born in Iowa. Under the name Paul

In addition to his crime fiction and histories of the mystery genre, Julian Symons has written volumes on Charles Dickens, Edgar Allen Poe, Thomas Carlyle, and the 1926 British General Strike. *Jerry Bauer*

Cain he is a popular *Black Mask* writer whose only novel, *Fast One* (1933), is the story of gunman Gerry Kells and his dipsomaniac lover S. Grandquist, and remains as violent and disturbing today as it was when it first appeared.

1912 The "professor" of detection, Julian Symons, is born in London. A noted scholar, critic, biographer, novelist, president of the Detection Club, and Mystery Writers of America Grand Master (1982), Symons writes many now-classic British crime novels, including *The Thirty-first of February* (1950) and *The Plot Against Roger Rider* (1973). His erudite study of crime literature, *Bloody Murder* (U.S. title: *Mortal Consequences*; 1972), remains a cornerstone analysis of the genre.

•31•

1939 *Charlie Chan in Reno* is released. The second Chan film to feature Sidney Toler and Sen Yung (as the No. 1 Son), rather than Warner Oland and Keye Luke, it is received rather coolly by the critics. "Someday we hope Chan will prove himself the killer, and be executed," Frank S. Nugent wrote in *The New York Times*.

June 17. Ralph Bellamy *left* as Ellery Queen in the rather poorly titled *Ellery Queen's Penthouse Mystery* (1941). *Copyright © 1941, renewed 1969, Columbia Pictures. All rights reserved.*

George C. Chesbro's thrillers featuring Mongo the Magnificent and Veil Kendry create a delightful crossover between the detective and fantasy genres. *Ken Fogelman*

• 1 •

1829 Sir Robert Peel's Police Bill is passed, leading to the creation of an organized British police force housed in Whitehall Place adjoining Great Scotland Yard. In the 1880s the headquarters moved to a new building at the Parliament end of Whitehall, called the New Scotland Yard.

1887 Filmdom's first gangster, and later its first Holmes, Clive Brook, is born in London. In 1929 the first talking Holmes picture opens, and two years earlier Brook had a lead in Josef von Sternberg's *Underworld*—the first Hollywood gangster movie

1959 Sax Rohmer, Fu Manchu's creator and member of the occult society known as the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn (whose other members included William Butler Yeats, Aleister Crowley, and Arthur Machen), dies. In *The Dream Detective* (1920) he introduces the occult detective Moris Klaw, who carries his "odically sterilized" red cushion with him to murder sites so that he can absorb the atmosphere of a crime during a nap and dream its circumstances

1978 The last episode of the popular L.A. crime series *Baretta* airs on ABC. Robert Blake stars as the streetwise, unconventional cop Tony Baretta

•2•

1916 Birth of John Michael Evelyn in Worthing, Sussex. His novels written as Michael Underwood (including *The Case Against Philip Quest*, 1962, and *The Injudicious Judge*, 1987) feature a background of legal goings-on, courtroom drama, and detective investigation. His experiences as an attorney are reflected in the legalistic back-room ambiance of his work.

•3•

•4•

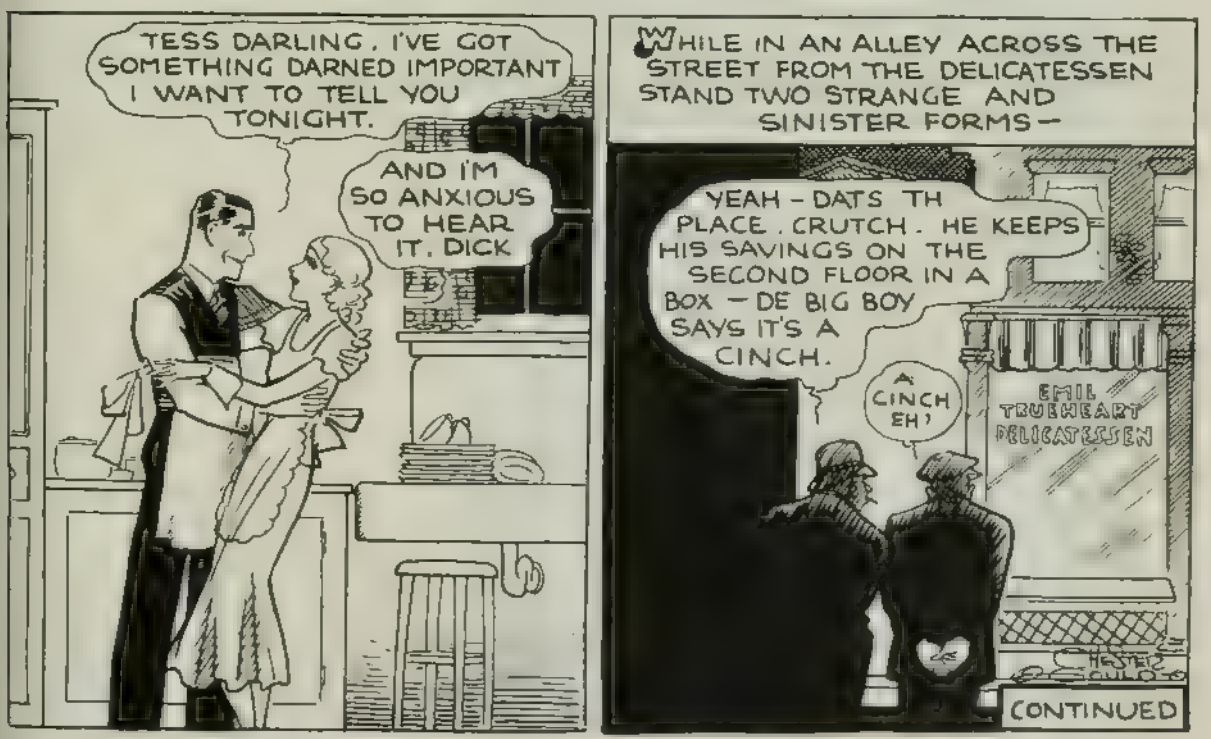
1940 The imaginative and bizarre writer George C Chesbro is born in Washington, D C Chesbro writes detective novels featuring Dr. Robert Frederickson, an ex-circus performer, criminologist, and dwarf—better known as Mongo. His *Beasts of Valhalla* (1985) blends fantasy, computer technology, and Wagnerian and Tolkienian mythology with the traditional private-eye style.

1949 To the delight of millions, square-jawed sleuth Dick Tracy *finally* marries his one true love, Tess Trueheart, after an eighteen-year engagement.

An aproned Dick Tracy pops the question to Tess Trueheart in 1931. Meanwhile trouble brews—enough trouble to postpone the wedding for eighteen years and convince Dick to join the force. *Tribune Media Syndicate. Reprinted by permission*

•5•

1908 Georgiana Ann Randolph, known to readers as Craig Rice, is born in Chicago. Famed for her exaggerated portraits of gangland Chicago and a multitude of screwball comedy mysteries, her most popular sleuth, the drunken lawyer John


TESS DARLING, I'VE GOT SOMETHING DARNED IMPORTANT I WANT TO TELL YOU TONIGHT.
AND I'M SO ANXIOUS TO HEAR IT, DICK
WHILE IN AN ALLEY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE DELICATESSEN STAND TWO STRANGE AND SINISTER FORMS—
YEAH – DATS TH PLACE, CRUTCH. HE KEEPS HIS SAVINGS ON THE SECOND FLOOR IN A BOX – DE BIG BOY SAYS IT'S A CINCH.
A CINCH EH?
EMIL TRUEHEART DELICATESSEN
CONTINUED

Craig Rice as she appeared on the cover of the January 28, 1946, issue of *Time* magazine. *Copyright 1946 Time Inc. Reprinted by permission*

J. Malone, is a parody of hard-boiled clichés: he keeps his liquor in filing cabinet drawers under labels such as "Confidential" and "Emergency," and always enjoys the company of beautiful women. Randolph also ghost writes for famous mystery novelists Gypsy Rose Lee (*The G-String Murders*, 1941) and George Sanders (*Crime on My Hands*, 1944)

• 6 •

1904 The first female president of the Mystery Writers of America, Helen McCloy, is born in New York City. Her psychological thrillers often focus on an innocent relative of the suspected criminal. Her series character, Dr. Basil Willing, is the first American psychiatrist-detective, and the first to use psychiatry in discovering clues. She was once married to hard-boiled writer Brett Halliday

• 7 •

1866 E.W. Hornung, the father of the greatest of all fictional thieves and one of the first rogue heroes, A.J. Raffles, "the Amateur Cracksman," is born in Middlesbrough, Yorkshire Like Raffles, Hornung was an authority on cricket, as well as

an excellent player. His best-known non-Raffles book is *The Crime Doctor* (1914), a collection of stories about Dr. John Dollar (no relation to Max Marcin's Crime Doctor, Robert Ordway). A great wit, Hornung is also responsible for coining the famous line "Though he might be more humble, there's no police like Holmes."

1883 The New York Detective Library, a popular series of dime novels featuring Irish sleuth James Brady and his nemesis Jesse James, releases the first publication in its fifteen-year run.

• 8 •

1921 Rural settings alive with rustic ignorance and intolerance (*Some Run Crooked*, 1978) are the trademark of John Buxton Hilton, born in Buxton, Derbyshire. Writing under the name John Greenwood, Hilton creates his best-loved character, the elderly Inspector Mosley (*Murder, Mr Mosley*, 1983).

1950 John Huston's adaptation of W.R. Burnett's *The Asphalt Jungle* is released. Starring Sterling Hayden, this crime drama features an early appearance by Marilyn Monroe.

• 9 •

1870 Charles Dickens dies, having completed only six chapters of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

A.J. Raffles, cracksman extraordinaire. Raffles on thievery: "Of course, it's very wrong, but we can't all be moralists, and the distribution of wealth is very wrong to begin with."

• 10 •

1936 A master of contemporary espionage fiction, Brian Freemantle, is born in Southampton, Hampshire. The adventures of the beleaguered spy Charlie Muffin, from *Charlie M* (1977) to *The Run Around* (1989), exhibit Freemantle's strong characterizations and knowledge of intelligence communities

1945 *Father Brown*, based on the G.K. Chesterton character, premieres on the Mutual radio network as a summer series. Karl Swenson plays the title role.

The good Father Brown, complete with shovel-brim hat and "face as round and dull as a Norfolk dumpling," on the jacket of a 1926 collection of short stories

• 11 •

1923 Former show-business insider (and agent to such stars as Ramon Novarro) turned novelist George Baxt is born in Brooklyn. Baxt writes mordantly witty mystery novels in a variety of genres. In *A Queer Kind of Death* (1966), Baxt introduces Pharoah Love, a gay black cop who operates within New York's homosexual community. In *The Dorothy Parker Murder Case* (1984) he vividly re-creates the halcyon days of the Algonquin Round Table, putting the great New York wits into the whirlpool of a classic murder mystery.

• 12 •

1927 Henry Slesar, the writer of more than five hundred short stories that usually combine suspense with a finely honed black humor, is born in Brooklyn. Slesar receives the Best First Novel Edgar for *The Grey Flannel Shroud* (1959).

• 13 •

1935 Rex Burns, whose police procedurals featuring Denver cop Gabe Wager integrate theme and character with detailed knowledge of police methods, is born in San Diego. His 1975 work *The Alvarez Journal* won the Edgar for best first novel.

• 14 •

1930 Charles McCarry, one of America's greatest spy novelists, is born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. McCarry examines the lives of two families, the Hubbards and the Christophers—both in the business of espionage and counter-espionage. McCarry spends ten years working for the CIA, and his experiences are reflected in the attitude of his unusual hero, poet-spy Paul Christopher. *The Last Supper* (1983) moves from the 1920s to the present, using the Christopher family as a historical barometer

1936 G.K. Chesterton dies. His 1908 thriller *The Man Who Was Thursday* (subtitled *A Nightmare*) combines detection, espionage, secret codes, anarchists, disguises, policemen, slapstick, and theology—truly a one-of-a-kind novel.

• 15 •

1905 Wendell Hertig Taylor is born. A professor of chemistry at Princeton University, he collaborates with Jacques Barzun on the classic inventory of mystery fiction, *A Catalogue of Crime* (1971).

• 16 •

1911 The man *Reader's Digest* called "one of the six finest thriller writers in the world," Victor Canning is born in Plymouth, England. Adventure novelist Canning's *A Handful of Silver* (1954) is made into the quintessential 1960s movie thriller *Masquerade* (1964), and Alfred Hitchcock's final film, *Family Plot* (1976), is based on Canning's *The Rainbird Pattern* (1972).

1975 Edward S. Aarons, author of the "Assignment" series featuring indestructible CIA agent Sam Durell, dies. Durell is beaten or knocked unconscious at least twice in every novel, but manages to slaughter villains using fists, knives, guns, bombs, or whatever is handy.

The customarily disheveled G.K. Chesterton, author of *The Man Who Was Thursday* and creator of Father Brown. *Howard Coster*

• 17 •

1904 The man behind the enigmatic Ellery Queen, Ralph Bellamy, is born in Chicago. The distinguished American actor plays Ellery Queen in four films released in 1940 and 1941, beginning with *Ellery Queen, Master Detective*.

1917 Dean Martin, actor, singer, and founding member of the Rat Pack, is born in Steubenville, Ohio. Dino's contribution to the world of mystery and suspense is his campy portrayal of Donald Hamilton's Matt Helm in four outrageous film thrillers (including *The Wrecking Crew* with Sharon Tate, 1969) that made the James Bond series look like Shakespeare.

1953 Samuel Fuller's Cold War thriller *Pickup on South Street*, starring Richard Widmark, is released. Widmark plays a two-bit New York pickpocket who finds himself in possession of microfilm wanted by Feds and Commies alike. When asked by a Federal agent whether he knows the true nature of Soviet Communism, Widmark responds, "Who cares?"

• 18 •

1869 The author of the first instruction manual for crime writers, Carolyn Wells, is born in Rahway, New Jersey. *The Technique of the Mystery Story*, published in 1913, includes her famous opinion: "The detective story must *seem* real in the same sense that fairy tales seem real to children." Wells also writes eighty-two mystery novels, usually featuring the scholarly detective Fleming Stone (*The Clue*, 1909).

1939 The *Ellery Queen* radio program premieres on CBS Near the end of each drama a panel of guest celebrities try to guess the solution before Ellery gives the answer Their ability

to pick out the killer proves to be so embarrassingly inept that the producers quickly delete this section of the program.

•19•

1863 The first team of crooks in literature is created by Sir Max Pemberton, who is born on this date in Birmingham, England. His *A Gentleman's Gentleman* (1896) features a valet (who is a rogue) employed by a gentleman (who is a rogue), anticipating Raffles and Bunny by three years.

•20•

1893 Lizzie Borden, America's favorite accused axe murderess, is acquitted of the charges of matri- patricide in Fall River, Massachusetts. Lizzie's case inspired the famous jump-rope doggerel "Lizzie Borden, with an axe/Gave her mother forty whacks/When she saw what she had done/She gave her father forty-one."

1903 Rupert Croft-Cooke is born in Edenbridge, Kent. Under the pseudonym Leo Bruce, Croft-Cooke writes the estimable mystery series featuring Sergeant William Beef, a policeman who prefers a good round of darts and a pint of lager to solving the intricate murders he invariably encounters in his eight novels, including *Case for Three Detectives* (1936). A longer-running series chronicles the adventures of Carolus Deene—a laconic history teacher who solves crimes as a hobby (*A Bone and a Hank of Hair,* 1961).

•21•

1905 Stuart Palmer, who writes of Hildegard Withers, an elderly and schoolmarmish snoop in the grand little-old-lady detective tradition, is born in Baraboo, Wisconsin. After the success of the film version of the first Withers novel, *The Penguin Pool Murder* (1931), Palmer begins his career as a screenwriter. The bulk of his thirty-seven scripts were mysteries featuring the Falcon, Bulldog Drummond, and the Lone Wolf.

1974 Roman Polanski's *Chinatown*, one of the great movies of the 1970s, is released. Robert Towne's extremely complex Oscar-winning film noir screenplay re-creates the drought-stricken Los Angeles of the 1930s. Jack Nicholson stars as the world-weary PI J.J. Giddes.

•22•

1920 Hilary Waugh, whose police procedural *Last Seen Wearing* (1952) is considered an early classic of the genre, is born in New Haven, Connecticut

Known for his cynical views, Ambose Bierce also wrote stories with elements of crime and horror

•23•

1876 The well-known American humorist and short story writer Irvin S. Cobb is born in Paducah, Kentucky. Cobb's

Lawrence Block didn't always write fiction. One of his earlier works was *A Guide Book to Australian Coins* (1965). *Laurie Leber*

best book in the mystery genre is *Faith, Hope, and Charity* (1934), which features an appearance by his popular detective character Judge Priest. The title story is a shuddery, oft-anthologized work involving divine retribution.

•24•

1842 Ambrose Bierce is born in Horse Cave, Ohio. Heir to the Poe tradition of grisly horror and psychological aberration within the short story format, Bierce's sardonic sense of humor leavens the more macabre aspects. In 1914 Bierce vanished mysteriously in the wilds of Mexico during Pancho Villa's revolution.

1905 A steady average of thirty to fifty thousand words a week—sold outright for cash—makes Nigel Morland, born on this date in London, one of the most productive mystery writers ever. A one-time secretary to Edgar Wallace, he seems to have inherited the master's gift of writing lengthily and proliferously, churning out more than 300 pulp novels (under six pseudonyms), plus authoring textbooks and editing magazines

1938 Popular multigenre novelist Lawrence Block is born in Buffalo, New York. Block's greatest success has come from

his character Matt Scudder, an alcoholic ex-cop who deals with New York street scum and his own troubled past (*When the Sacred Ginmill Closes*, 1986). A lighter series features Bernie Rhodenbarr, a New York bookseller and burglar (*The Burglar Who Painted Like Mondrian*, 1983). These novels serve as the basis for *Burglar*, a 1987 film oddly cast with Whoopi Goldberg as the titular character. Block has also written under the names Paul Kavanagh and Chip Harrison

•25•

1905 Parisian physician Dr. Beaurieux carried out a ghastly experiment: immediately after the guillotining of the murderer Henri Languille, Beaurieux holds up the severed head and calls out Languille's name. The head responds by opening its eyes. The procedure was repeated twice before the head "dies."

1906 Famed architect Stanford White is enjoying a show on the rooftop of his Madison Square Garden when New York millionaire Harry K. Thaw steps up to his table and shoots him three times in the face, killing him instantly. Thaw's twenty-year-old wife had been White's mistress, which drove Thaw into a murderous rage. As he surrendered Thaw told the police, "He deserved it. He ruined my wife."

•26•

1904 Peter Lorre, the bug-eyed actor best known for his portrayals of deranged murderers (*M*, 1931; *Mad Love*, 1935) and villainous sidekicks (*The Maltese Falcon*, 1941; *Arsenic and Old Lace*, 1944), is born in Rosenburg, Hungary, as Laszlo Lowenstein.

•27•

1944 Agatha Christie's play *Ten Little Indians* opens at the Broadhurst Theater in New York. Mystery purists are still smarting over the new conclusion Christie concocted for stage purposes, in which the killer is outsmarted and two of the characters sail, blissfully unmurdered, into the sunset. This "happy" ending was adhered to in all three film adaptations, including the René Clair-directed 1945 classic *And Then There Were None*. In the novel, of course, all ten "little Indians" end up dead

•28•

1909 The father of the modern spy story, Eric Ambler, is born in London. Ambler's international thrillers are unlike their predecessors in that they involve victims of circumstance rather than patriotic and burly heroes. The Ambler protagonists perform no acts of bravery but rather struggle to extricate

Between winning two Edgar Awards from the Mystery Writers of America—for *The Light of Day* in 1963 and *Here Lies Eric Ambler* in 1986—Eric Ambler was named Grand Master by the organization in 1975. *Stephen Crowell/Mysterious Press*

themselves from dangerous situations, as in *The Mask of Dimitrios* (1939) and *Judgment on Deltchev* (1951).

•29•

•30•

1910 The man who took readers on a fascinating autobiographical journey into the mind of a compulsive thief, Winston Graham, is born in Manchester, Lancashire. An author of a wide variety of novels, Graham's mental travelogue *Marnie* (1961) was filmed by Hitchcock in 1964, with Tippi Hedren, Sean Connery, and a small role for Bruce Dern.

1951 Alfred Hitchcock's classic *Strangers on a Train*, based on Patricia Highsmith's first novel and starring Farley Granger and Robert Walker, is released.

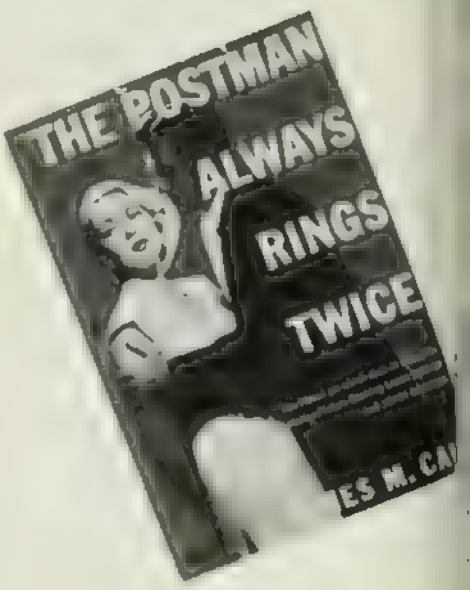
1966 Albert DeSalvo—the infamous Boston Strangler—goes to trial, defended by famed trial lawyer F. Lee Bailey.

Julie Humphrey Bogart and Lau-
ren Bacall in a tense moment from
Howard Hawks' The Big Sleep
© 1946 Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.
Renewed 1973 United Artists Tele-
vision, Inc.

JU Y

• 1 •

1892 One of the great hard-boiled pioneers, James M. Cain, is born in Annapolis, Maryland. Cain does *not* write detective novels, mainly because he prefers realism to a tidy solution. Usually ranked with Hammett and Chandler in the mystery pantheon, Cain's novels are often told from the point of view of a criminal brought down by lust. His first novel, *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (1934), influences Albert Camus' great existential novel *The Stranger*. Cain's three most famous novels were made into classic Hollywood dramas—*Double Indemnity* (1944), *Mildred Pierce* (1945), and *Postman* (1946)



• 2 •

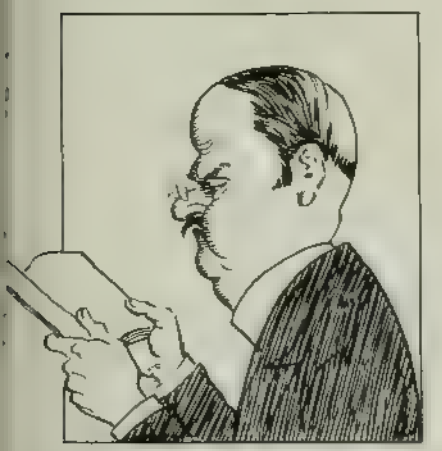
1864 William Le Queux, a member of the British Secret Service, is born in London. Le Queux begins writing stories of intrigue largely to finance his intelligence work, which requires much traveling and contact with royalty and other persons of quality. His many novels between 1890 and 1910 (*England's Peril*, 1899; *Spies of the Kaiser*, 1909) anticipate every development in the secret-agent form until the innovative *Ashenden* (1928) by W. Somerset Maugham

1931 Child murderer Peter Kurten, "the monster of Düsseldorf," is guillotined. His career and capture inspire the classic Fritz Lang film *M* (1931), starring Peter Lorre.

1941 The radio comedy-mystery series *The Adventures of the Thin Man*—based on the Dashiell Hammett characters Nick and Nora Charles—premieres on NBC. The producer could not persuade William Powell and Myrna Loy to star, so he settled for Les Damon and Claudia Morgan, who could do a fairly close imitation

Looking more like a bank vice president than a Secret Service agent in his mustache and pince-nez, author William Le Queux sports a rack of medals (*below*). Interrogation scene or rescue? Only readers of Le Queux's 1921 collection of stories can say for sure (*bottom left*)

Cover of the movie edition of James M Cain's novel *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (*opposite page*) with Lana Turner and John Garfield. © *1946 Loew's Inc. Ren. 1973 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc.*



Caricature of Anthony Berkeley by George Morrow, from *Jugged Journalism* (1925) by A.B. Cox.

•3•

1906 The Saint, in real life, George Sanders, is born in St. Petersburg. The debonair actor is known not only for his portrayals of Simon Templar—the Saint—but also for the ever-suave Falcon in two popular Hollywood series of the 1940s. Sanders's brother, Tom Conway, replaced him as the Saint—after Sanders committed suicide (he found life "boring").

•4•

1932 Kay Nolte Smith, whose first novel, *The Watcher* (1980), receives an Edgar Award, is born in Eveleth, Minnesota. Her novels of romantic suspense usually deal with the psychological motivations behind the crime.

•5•

1893 Anthony Berkeley Cox, whose *Poisoned Chocolates Case* (1929), a lampoon of mystery writers, detectives, and the Detection Club, is considered one of the great novels of the Golden Age, is born in Watford, Hertfordshire. A satirical journalist, Cox writes mysteries as Anthony Berkeley and Francis Iles. *Before the Fact* (1932), written as Francis Iles, is a psychological portrait of a killer as seen through the eyes of his victim. The novel is filmed by Alfred Hitchcock as *Suspicion* in 1941, but the ending is changed so that Cary Grant will not be seen as a murderer.

1943 *Chick Carter, Boy Detective* begins a two-year run on the radio. A harebrained takeoff on *Nick Carter, Master Detective* for the bubblegum crowd, its title character eventually makes it into an incredibly bad film.

1943 The radio series *The Adventures of Nero Wolfe* has its premiere. Among the actors to play the Rex Stout detective character are Santos Ortega, Luis van Rooten, and Sydney Greenstreet.

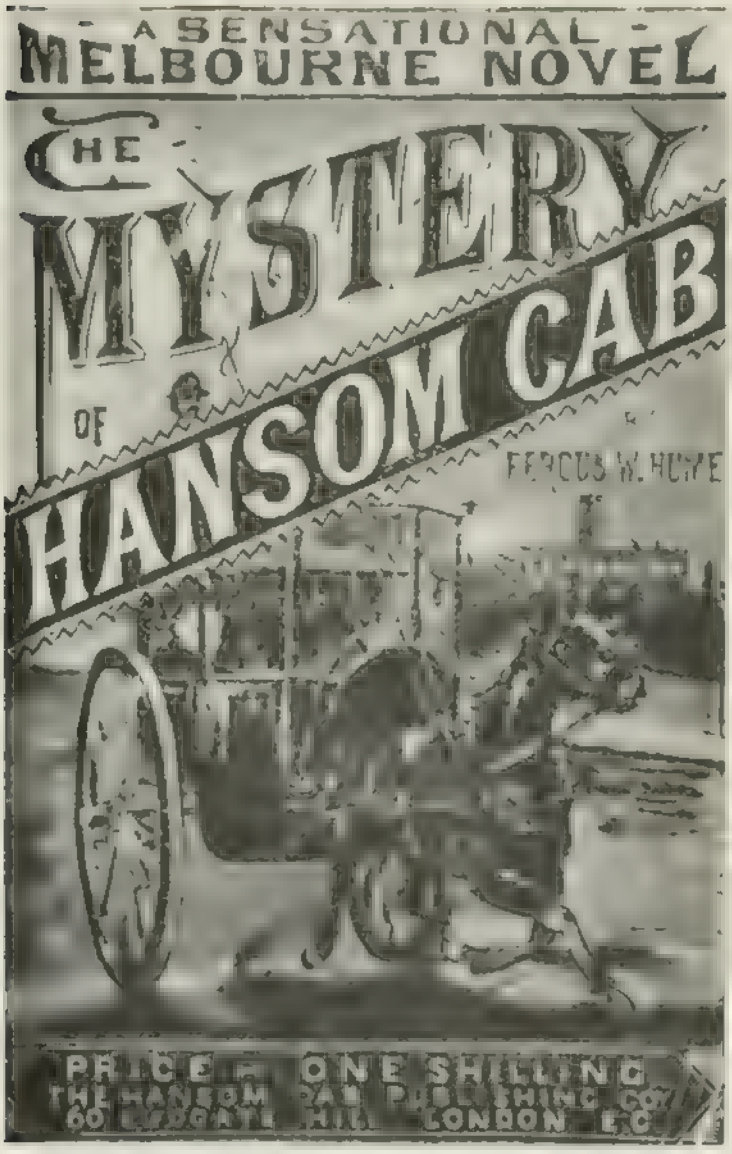
•6•

1899 Mignon G. Eberhart, part of the Mary Roberts Rinehart "Had-I-But-Known" tradition, is born in University Place, Nebraska. Author of more than fifty crime novels and many short stories, in 1970 she is awarded the Grand Master title by the Mystery Writers of America.

1949 The short-lived TV detective drama *Armchair Detective* premieres on CBS. Featuring one-act whodunits containing detailed clues to help the audience solve the mystery, the show stars H. Allen Smith as Mr. Crime Authority.

•7•

1943 The George Harmon Coxe news photographer-detective character Casey debuts on CBS radio network as *Flashgun Casey*.



Cover of the 1887 second edition of *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, which sold more than 340,000 copies

1949 Jack Webb's ultrarealistic police drama *Dragnet* premieres on NBC radio network. The trend-setting program features Webb in the role of Sgt. Joe Friday of the L.A.P.D.

• 8 •

1859 Fergus Hume, author of the best-selling detective novel of the nineteenth century, *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, is born in England. The first edition, published in Melbourne, Australia, in 1886, at Hume's expense, is the rarest-known book in the genre. Only two copies are known to exist. After his first success, Hume writes nearly 150 other novels (*The Devil-Stick*, 1898; *The Golden Wang-Ho*, 1901), but they are generally considered unreadable

1911 John Ball, who created Virgil Tibbs, the best-known black detective in fiction, is born in Schenectady, New York *In the Heat of the Night*, the film based on the 1965 book of

the same title, receives five Academy Awards, including best picture of 1967. He never had another successful book.

• 9 •

1764 Ann Radcliffe is born in London. Her *Mysteries of Udolpho* (1794) is one of the milestones in the history of the gothic novel for the first time, rational explanations of apparently supernatural events are offered to the reader.

• 10 •

1875 The man who dared create a fallible detective, E.C. Bentley, is born in Shepherd's Bush, London. Bentley's masterpiece, *Trent's Last Case* (1913), features Philip Trent, who falls in love with the chief suspect and ultimately discovers that his ingenious solution to the mystery is completely wrong.

The chief suspect from *Trent's Last Case*, with whom the detective falls in love, from the frontispiece of the first edition (*top*); E.C. Bentley (*below*) considered his celebrated *Trent's Last Case* to be "not so much a detective story as an exposure of detective stories." "That the detective could be at once brilliantly right and wrong remains one of the novel's achievements," mystery historian Howard Haycraft noted.

• 11 •

• 12 •

1902 Daniel Mainwaring, who writes as Geoffrey Homes, is born in Dunlap, California. His best-known novel, *Build My Gallows High* (1946), the story of a man haunted and ultimately destroyed by his past, becomes Jacques Tourneur's *Out of the Past* (1947), the greatest of all noir films. Homes later adapts Jack Finney's *The Body Snatcher* (1955) into the classic of Cold War paranoid science fiction, *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956).

1933 Birth of the master of the comic crime novel, Donald E. Westlake, in Brooklyn. Westlake is most famous for his books featuring John Dortmunder, a master burglar whose complicated plans to steal anything from the Balabomo Emerald (*The Hot Rock*, 1970) to an entire bank housed in a mobile home (*Bank Shot*, 1972) to a kidnapped nun (*Good Behavior*, 1986) are always foiled by his inept henchmen and by sheer bad luck. Extremely prolific, Westlake has written more serious novels under several pseudonyms—notably that of Richard Stark. As Stark, he is the creator of Dortmunder's cold-blooded Doppelganger, a thief known only as Parker. Marked by unrelenting amorality, the twenty-volume Parker series begins with *The Hunter* (1962), filmed in 1967 by John Boorman as *Point Blank* and starring the perfectly cast Lee Marvin. Westlake receives Edgar Awards for *God Save the Mark* (best novel of 1967) and *The Stepfather* (best screenplay of 1987).

• 13 •

1893 Lord Peter Wimsey's creator, Dorothy L. Sayers, is born in Oxford, England. A brilliant scholar who learned

Latin at the age of seven and was one of the first women to graduate from Oxford, Sayers worked as a copywriter in an advertising agency before creating one of the greatest detectives of fiction. The witty, eccentric aristocrat Wimsey debuts in *Whose Body?* (1923), investigating the case of a corpse—wearing only a golden pince-nez in a bathtub—at the request of his mother, the Dowager Duchess of Denver. His most notable cases, some of the great classics of the traditional detective genre, include *The Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club* (1928), *Murder Must Advertise* (1933), and *The Nine Tailors* (1934). Lord Peter falls in love with mystery writer Harriet Vane (a thinly disguised representation of Sayers herself) in *Strong Poison* (1930) and eventually marries her in *Busman's Honeymoon* (1937). In addition to her crime writing, Sayers devotes her literary talent to theological studies and translation of medieval Italian verse

• 14 •

1789 The French people, crying "Brotherhood, liberty, and equality," storm the Bastille, France's oldest prison. The Bastille had been the home of many famous prisoners, including Marie Antoinette, who stayed there before going to the guillotine. Ironically, no great liberation resulted—at this date the only occupants were a few thieves and other petty

Before creating Lord Peter Wimsey, Dorothy L. Sayers was the editor of the periodical *Oxford Poetry* from 1917 to 1919. Her first published book was *Opus I* (1916), a collection of her early poems. *National Portrait Gallery, London*

criminals. The crowd demolishes the prison, tearing it apart stone by stone until nothing remains. The date is now celebrated in France as a national holiday.

• 15 •

1913 One of the great twentieth-century practitioners of the adventure novel in the H. Rider Haggard tradition, Hammond Innes, is born in Horsham, Sussex. Innes's works span the globe from the Arabian deserts (*The Doomed Oasis*, 1960) to the islands of Greece (*The Levkas Man*, 1971). His best-known novel, *The Wreck of the Mary Deare* (1956), is a classic tale of man against the sea.

• 16 •

1907 Birth of Barbara Stanwyck (born Ruby Stevens) in Brooklyn. Stanwyck's contribution to the world of mystery is her superb portrayal of the murderous wife in Billy Wilder's 1944 film *Double Indemnity*, based on the James M. Cain novel.

1948 John Huston's *Key Largo*, starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, and featuring Edward G. Robinson in his last major gangster role, is released.

Abhorring modern prison conditions and championing reform, Erle Stanley Gardner often dedicated his novels to the nation's leading penologists.

• 17 •

1889 Perry Mason's creator, Erle Stanley Gardner, is born in Malden, Massachusetts. Gardner gives up his lucrative law practice in 1933 to devote himself to writing crime fiction full time. That year sees the publication of his first novel, *The Case of the Velvet Claws*, which introduces lawyer-detective Mason. While the eighty-two Mason novels contain few literary niceties, Gardner becomes one of the best-selling authors of the twentieth-century. Under the pseudonym A. A. Fair, Gardner writes twenty-nine novels about oversize elderly private eye Bertha Cool and her short partner Donald Lam (*The Bigger They Come*, 1939; *Pass the Gravy*, 1959).

1912 The master of complex plotting and wonderfully drawn characters, Michael Gilbert, is born in Billinghay, Lincolnshire. A London solicitor (one of his clients was Raymond Chandler) and author of romantic suspensers, espionage novels, police procedurals, and literate intellectual puzzlers, Gilbert is a jack-of-all-mystery-trades. His masterpiece, *Smallbone Deceased* (1950), is set in a lawyer's office and concerns the discovery of a body in a safe-deposit box. He is awarded the Grand Master title by the Mystery Writers of America in 1987.

• 18 •

1888 Birth of the heir to the dubious mantle of Edgar Wallace as king of the lowest form of potboilers, Sydney Horler, in Leytonstone, Essex. An amusingly vile writer, Horler's nearly one hundred novels (or "shockers," as he liked to call them)

feature a belligerently racist ignorance combined with a lack of literary talent that has rarely been surpassed in twentieth-century fiction. Horler once said, "I know I haven't the brains to write a proper detective novel, but there is no class of literature for which I feel a deeper personal loathing."

•19•

1923 Joseph Hansen, whose 1987 novel *Early Graves* is among the first crime fiction to deal with the AIDS epidemic, is born in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Creator of Dave Brandstetter, a gay, middle-aged insurance investigator, Hansen writes the first works in the mystery genre to treat homosexuals as human beings. His novels, from *Fadeout* (1970) to *Obedience* (1988), are traditional private-eye whodunits with strong characterization and timely plotting.

1944 Birth of William Marshall in Sydney, Australia. Marshall's Yellowthread Street series of police procedurals, dealing with the cops and criminals of the Hong Bay precinct of Hong Kong (*The Hatchet Man*, 1976; *Out of Nowhere*, 1988) are a totally original blend of Keystone Kops slapstick with incredibly bizarre violence and mass murder. Marshall's experiences in the Far East and his meticulous research give these fantastically skewed and unique novels a strange, touching realism.

•20•

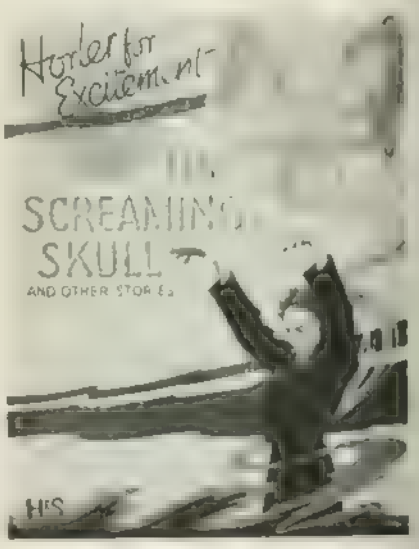
1938 Diana Rigg is born in Doncaster, England. Classically trained as an actress, Rigg achieves her greatest fame as karate expert and secret agent Emma Peel (the name derived from "M Appeal," meaning "man appeal") on the long-running British television series *The Avengers*. In 1989 Rigg succeeds Vincent Price as host of the PBS series *Mystery!*

•21•

1865 The man who was king, M.P. Shiel, is born in Montserrat, West Indies. The ninth child of a Methodist preacher, Shiel's father has him crowned king of Redonda—a small island no government had bothered to claim—at the age of fifteen. Shiel creates the bizarre detective Prince Zaleski and the strange adventurer Cummings King Monk (*Prince Zaleski*, 1895; *The Pale Ape*, 1911); his archaic, lapidary, complex writing style leads many historians of the genre to believe that Shiel was a hashish smoker. He spends the last years of his life penning a biography of Jesus Christ.

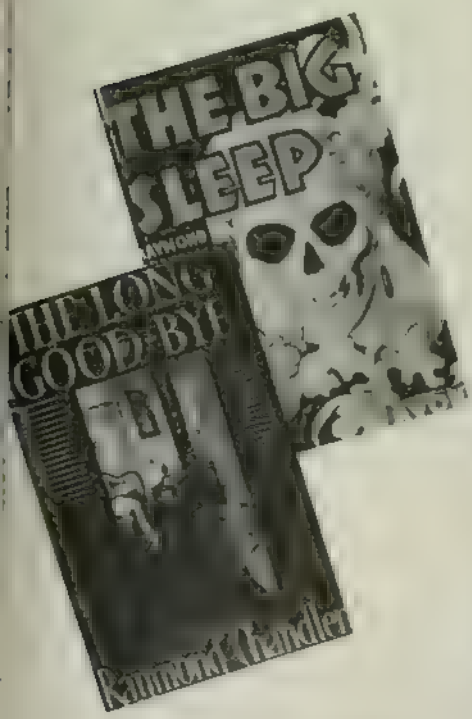
1929 *The Insidious Dr. Fu Manchu*—the first Fu Manchu movie is released. Warner Oland (later to achieve a true meal ticket with his portrayals of Charlie Chan) plays the Devil Doctor; after he's captured at the end of the picture, he drinks poison. He'll be back.

1942 Michael Z. Lewin, who creates Indianapolis cop Lt. Leroy Powder (*Hard Line*, 1983), perhaps the most obnox-



An example of "Horler for Excitement" jacket art, from a 1930 collection. Horler's best-known character, "Tiger" Standish, was an unabashed steal from Sapper's Bulldog Drummond. *Hodder and Stoughton Limited*

Portrait by Neil Austin of M.P. Shiel, king of Redonda and creator of Prince Zaleski and Cummings King Monk



An early paperback edition of the first Philip Marlowe novel (*top*); evocative jacket art from the final Philip Marlowe novel (1954). Chandler left a fragment of a novel entitled *Poodle Springs* when he died; it was subsequently completed by Robert B. Parker and published in 1989. *Avon Books* (top); *A. A. Knopf* (bottom)

ious, unlikable hero in police procedural fiction, is born in Springfield, Massachusetts. Besides the Powder books, Lewin also writes another series, this one featuring Indianapolis private eye Albert Samson (*The Enemies Within*, 1974).

1967 Actor Basil Rathbone, the best-known film portrayer of Sherlock Holmes, dies.

•22•

1943 Mark McGarrity, who writes as Bartholomew Gill, is born in Holyoke, Massachusetts. His police procedurals, featuring Inspector Peter McGarr, do for Ireland what Nicolas Freeling's Van der Valk series has done for the Netherlands. While the novels (*McGarr and the P.M. of Belgrave Square*, 1983) are traditional mysteries, the underlying violence of Northern Ireland plays a large part in the action.

•23•

1888 The greatest author of the hard-boiled school of detective fiction, Raymond Chandler, is born in Chicago. Chandler turns to writing after losing his job as an oil executive due to alcoholism. His protagonist Philip Marlowe is a romantic and chivalrous private eye, often compared by critics to a Grail knight. Chandler prompts this interpretation of his hero's values in the first pages of his 1939 debut novel, *The Big Sleep* (filmed by Howard Hawks in 1946 with Humphrey Bogart in the lead). Marlowe refuses to take on dishonest clients, and his thoughtful, introspective approach to investigation stands him in good stead through some of the best PI novels ever written, including *Farewell, My Lovely* (1940) and *The Long Goodbye* (1953).

1910 Inspector Walter Dew confronts Dr. H.H. Crippen on board the S.S. *Laurentic*, arresting him for the murder and mutilation of Mrs. Crippen. Crippen reportedly says, "I am not sorry. The anxiety has been too much."

•24•

1905 The American editor and mystery critic Howard Haycraft, whose landmark 1941 *Murder for Pleasure* is the first important scholarly work about detective fiction published in the United States, is born in Madelia, Minnesota. In the book, Haycraft offers a collection called "A Reader's List of Detective Story Cornerstones," which he later updates and expands with the help of Ellery Queen. The list of 167 volumes, entitled "The Haycraft-Queen Definitive Library of Detective-Crime-Mystery Fiction: Two Centuries of Cornerstones, 1748–1948," is regarded as the finest critical gathering in the genre.

1916 John D. MacDonald, or as Anthony Boucher calls him: "The John O'Hara of the crime-suspense story," is born in Sharon, Pennsylvania. Beginning as a magazine writer, MacDonald moves into the paperback original scene upon

the decline of the pulp magazines in the late 1940s. MacDonald's most notable creation is the detective-thief Travis McGee, a Florida operative who performs the service of recovering stolen property, among the McGee novels are *The Deep Blue Good-by* (1964) and *The Dreadful Lemon Sky* (1975). The Mystery Writers of America present him with their Grand Master Award in 1972, and he is also the recipient of France's Grand Prix de Littérature Policière.

Author John D MacDonald earned fierce loyalty from his readers—and from other writers. Richard Condon called him "the great American story-teller" and Pete Hamill, "the best novelist in America." *Dorothy Prentiss MacDonald*

•25•

1841 Mary Cecelia Rogers, known to New Yorkers as the Beautiful Cigar Girl, vanishes. Three days later her body is found floating in the Hudson River, strangled with a strip from her own petticoat. The murder is never solved, and Edgar Allan Poe, a customer at Rogers's cigar stand, bases his second Dupin story, "The Mystery of Marie Rogêt," on the case.

•26•

1883 Birth of Edwin Balmer in Chicago. Collaborating with his fellow *Chicago Tribune* reporter William MacHarg, Balmer writes several mystery-adventures, the best known being *The Achievements of Luther Trant* (1910)—the first time the new science of psychology as a method of detection is used in fiction.

1900 Scatterbrained vaudeville and film comedienne Gracie Allen is born in San Francisco. Allen, partner and wife of George Burns, is the only actress to have a Philo Vance mystery screenplay written expressly for her in *The Gracie Allen Murder Case* (published in 1938, filmed in 1939).

•27•

1929 Henry Patterson is born in Paterson, New Jersey. Patterson's best-selling books written as Jack Higgins combine plausible plot lines with a blend of fictional and historical characters, the best example of which is his greatest novel, *The Eagle Has Landed* (1975), the story of a group of German paratroopers assigned to kidnap Winston Churchill in 1943 while Allied forces race against the clock to stop the ingenious plot.

•28•

1902 Kenneth Fearing, author of the classic *The Big Clock* (1946), is born in Oak Park, Illinois. A story of murder in the magazine-publishing world, the book is influenced by Fearing's own years as a writer at *Time* magazine. *The Big Clock* is filmed twice, superbly in 1948 with Ray Milland and Charles Laughton, agonizingly in 1987 (as *No Way Out*) with Kevin Costner; Gene Hackman, and Sean Young

•29•

1892 Actor William Powell is born in Pittsburgh. The debonair actor plays Philo Vance in four talkies during the late 1920s and early 1930s but is best known for his portrayals of Nick Charles in the phenomenally successful *Thin Man* series (1934–1947).

1909 Prison author Chester Himes is born in Jefferson City, Missouri. During his seven-year stay in the Ohio State Penitentiary, Himes is inspired to write mysteries by Dashiell Hammett's stories in *Black Mask*. His "Harlem domestic detective stories" featuring Grave Digger Jones and Coffin Ed Johnson (*Cotton Comes to Harlem*, 1965) capture the violence of the late sixties urban black experience.

•30•

•31•

1977 In a parked car close to the Brooklyn shore Robert Violante and Stacy Moskowitz become the final victims of New York's infamous "Son of Sam." The following Wednesday, Deputy Inspector Tim Dowd, who had led the hunt for the killer, arrests David Berkowitz, a mild-mannered postal worker, who responds with the classic line. "Inspector Dowd, you finally got me."

William Powell and Myrna Loy as Nick and Nora Charles break the happy news to their child surrogate, Asta. © *1939 Loew's Inc. Renewed 1966 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc.*

AUGUST

August 26 Warner Oland (far right) as Charlie Chan in *Charlie Chan at Monte Carlo* (20th Century Fox)

• 1 •

1925 Alan Geoffrey Yates, who authors hundreds of lightweight but spicy paperback potboilers under the name Carter Brown, is born in London. While Yates's stories are meant to be read quickly and forgotten, his titles are not: *Shamus, Your Slip Is Showing* (1955), *Blonde, Beautiful, and Blam!* (1956), *Who Killed Dr. Sex?* (1964)

1966 Student Charles Whitman climbs a tower at the University of Texas at Austin, armed with a veritable arsenal of weaponry. At 11:48 A.M. he opens fire. An hour and a half later, Whitman is riddled with bullets by three policemen who have burst into the observation tower. He has killed a total of twenty-one people and wounded twenty-eight others.

• 2 •

1905 Actress Myrna Loy is born in Helena, Montana. Loy gets her start in Hollywood playing femme fatales and sinister Orientals, including the daughter of the Devil Doctor himself—as played by Boris Karloff—in *The Mask of Fu Manchu* (1932). She achieves her greatest fame as Nora Charles in the *Thin Man* series (1934–1947).

1918 Joseph Hayes, whose best seller *The Desperate Hours* (1954) was turned into both a Broadway play and a movie, is born in Indianapolis. Hayes is awarded an Edgar for best screenplay for this 1956 Humphrey Bogart vehicle

• 3 •

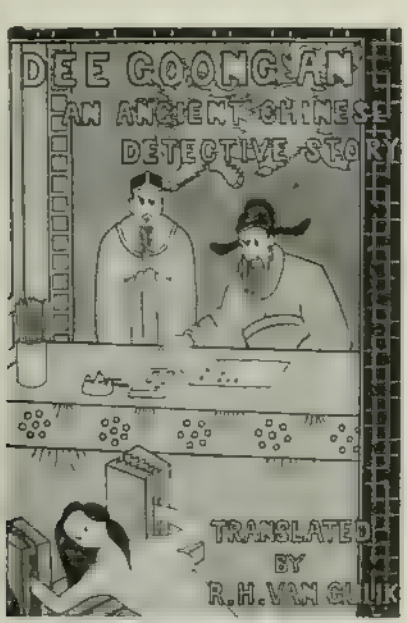
1920 The most popular current practitioner of the Golden Age or "traditional" mystery novel, P.D. James (pseudonym of Phyllis White), is born in Oxford. James adheres to the techniques of the classic British mystery while adding contemporary detail and attitudes, simultaneously re-creating and strengthening the genre. Her Scotland Yard inspector, Adam Dalgliesh, who appears in, among others, *Cover Her Face* (1962) and *Devices and Desires* (1989), is dogged and often brilliant in his pursuit of murderers, but also passionately enjoys composing poetry. In *An Unsuitable Job for a Woman* (1972), James introduces Cordelia Gray—the first modern British female private detective

P.D. James, queen of the mystery best-seller lists. *Rosemary Herbert*

• 4 •

1888 The first stage production of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale of human duality, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, starring Richard Mansfield in both roles, opens in London

1950 *Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye*, the film based on the novel by Horace McCoy, premieres. James Cagney stars as an escaped convict who finds refuge in a small town run by a corrupt politician



Two racy covers, designed and drawn by Robert van Gulik himself, from books issued in small printings by Asian presses

•5•

1926 The first attempts to move the detective genre into the sphere of the socialist political novel were made by Per Wahloo, born in Goteborg, Sweden. Wahloo, with wife Maj Sjöwall, creates the Martin Beck series of police procedurals, including *Roseanna* (1967) and *The Laughing Policeman* (1970).

•6•

1930 At 9:15 P.M., New York State Supreme Court Justice Joseph Crater bids adieu to friends at a West Forty-Fifth Street restaurant, gets into a cab, and vanishes from the face of the earth. His disappearance is highly publicized, leading to many sightings over the years. If not dead, he is still at large.

1970 V.C. Clinton-Baddeley, creator of Dr. R.V. Davie, dies. Davie, who appears in such novels as *Death's Bright Dart* (1967), is an elderly Cambridge professor whose understanding of human nature enables him to solve crimes that baffle the police.

•7•

1885 Birth of Cecil William Mercer, who along with John Buchan and "Sapper" was one of the Big Three of the British clubland hero novels of the 1920s. Writing as Dornford Yates, he creates heroes Jonah Mansel and Richard Chandos, who club their way through legions of dastardly Germans and other foreign nationals in their pursuit of a world hospitable to large and sporting Britons. Books by Yates include *Blind Corner* (1927) and *She Fell Among Thieves* (1935).

1949 *Martin Kane, Private Eye*, starring William Gargan, premieres on the Mutual radio network. In September 1949, Gargan, as Kane, goes on to become the first television private eye.

•8•

1891 One of the first and longest-running dime novel series—the Nick Carter Library—begins publication with Street and Smith in New York.

•9•

1910 Far Eastern mystery expert Robert van Gulik is born in Zutphen, Holland. A Dutch diplomat stationed in the Far East for most of his career, van Gulik becomes expert in Chinese history and culture. His discovery and translation in 1940 of a forgotten, anonymously written eighteenth-century Chinese novel, *Dee Goong An* (three interlocking cases of seventh-century detective-magistrate Judge Dee), is his introduction to the world of mystery. Its success leads him to write more novels, including *The Lacquer Screen* (1964) and *Neck-*

face in Calabash (1967), which feature the scholarly Dee at work solving mysteries in a vivid and authentic medieval China

• 10 •

1904 One of the few female novelists of her era to write hard-boiled fiction, Dorothy B. Hughes is born in Kansas City. Hughes writes many haunting suspense novels set in the American Southwest. *Both* her books *The So Blue Marble* (1940) and *In a Lonely Place* (1947) have the distinction of being included in the Haycraft-Queen cornerstone library. She receives the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Award in 1978

1950 Billy Wilder's *Sunset Boulevard*, a tale of murder and madness set within the decaying mansion of silent-film star Norma Desmond, is released. Gloria Swanson and William Holden star

• 11 •

• 12 •

• 13 •

1899 Alfred Hitchcock is born in London. When Hitchcock is a small boy, his father has the local constabulary lock him in a cell for a few hours to teach him discipline. This event leads to the director's lifelong dislike of the police. This attitude is shown in his first great film, *The Lodger* (1926), in which Ivor Novello is brutalized by a jealous police inspector who mistakes him for a serial killer. Mistaken identity plays a large part in most of the suspense master's films, including *The Thirty-nine Steps* (1935), *Saboteur* (1942), and *North by Northwest* (1959). Hitchcock also serves as host on the excellent and long-running (1957–1965) anthology TV series *Alfred Hitchcock Presents* and is the nominal editor of the suspense fiction periodical *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*

• 14 •

1953 The first film version of Mickey Spillane's *I, the Jury* premieres. Starring Biff Elliot as the hard-boiled Mike Hammer, this is probably the only film noir shot in 3-D.

• 15 •

1906 Connoisseur of the arts of legerdemain and prestidigitation Clayton Rawson is born in Elyria, Ohio. Rawson creates one of the classic Golden Age detective heroes, the Great Merlini. A New York stage magician, he is able to look behind the smoke and mirrors of intricate and seemingly impossible crimes in such books as *Death from a Top Hat*

Another classic Dell "Crime Map" from the reprint of Dorothy B Hughes's 1946 novel *Ride the Pink Horse*. *Dell Publishing Company*

Film auteur Alfred Hitchcock whips Kim Novak into an appropriate frenzy for a scene in his 1958 film *Vertigo*. *Copyright © by Universal Pictures, a Division of Universal City Studios, Inc. Courtesy of MCA Publishing Rights, a Division of MCA, Inc*

(1938). From 1963 to 1970 Rawson is managing editor of *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, where his twelve Great Merlini short stories were originally published.

1928 The first "all talking—no title card" mystery melodrama, *The Terror*, is released. Directed by Roy Del Ruth and based on an Edgar Wallace play, this is Warner Bros.' second production (after *The Jazz Singer*) to use Vitaphone, the sound-on-disc system that launched the sound era in film. Aside from the words spoken by *Terror* star Edward Everett Horton, the actors' lines are completely unintelligible.

• 16 •

1902 Georgette Heyer, whose twelve detective novels neatly span the Golden Age of mystery fiction, is born in Wimbledon, Surrey. Also a popular writer of Regency romances, the mystery novels Heyer wrote (such as *Footsteps in the Dark*, 1932, and *A Blunt Instrument*, 1938) are perfect examples of the "country house" mystery subgenre.

1928 British author Anthony Price, whose books move from Bond-like heroics to intellectual gymnastics, is born in Hertfordshire. Price, one of the modern practitioners of the British espionage novel, creates a hero, Dr. David Audley, who uses his knowledge of military history to fight the good

fight in the Cold War. Audley, a British Intelligence agent and historian, appears in *The Labyrinth Makers* (1970) and *Other Paths to Glory* (1974)—for which he won the Gold Dagger Award

• 17 •

1980 While on a camping trip at Ayers Rock, Australia, baby girl Azaria Chamberlain is stolen and devoured by dingoes, a species of wild dog that roams the Outback. Azaria's mother, Lindy Chamberlain, is accused of murdering her daughter and becomes the focus of Australia's most celebrated homicide case. A book, *Evil Angels* (1987), by John Bryson, and later a movie starring Meryl Streep, *A Cry in the Dark* (1989), are based on the incident

• 18 •

• 19 •

1902 Ogden Nash is born in Rye, New York. Nash's major contribution to the mystery field is his poetically immortal response to S.S. Van Dine's detective-snob: "Philo Vance/ Needs a kick in the pance."

1981 The archetypal "jiggle" detective series *Charlie's Angels* airs its final episode. One of the biggest hits of the 1970s, the show features brunettes Kate Jackson and Jaclyn Smith and a bevy of blondes filling the third position—vacated after the first year by Farrah Fawcett-Majors

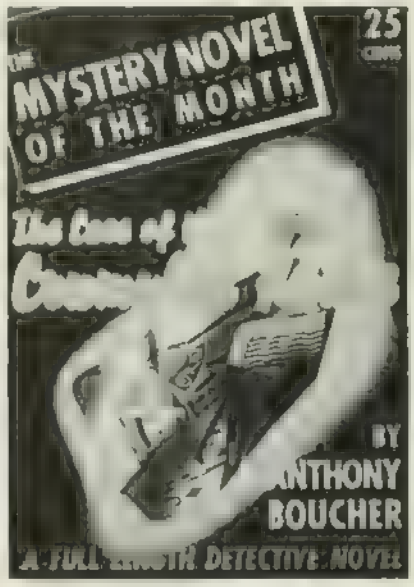
• 20 •

1975 One of the best screen versions of a Raymond Chandler novel, *Farewell, My Lovely* starring Robert Mitchum as Marlowe, is released

• 21 •

1911 Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* is stolen from the Louvre. The Paris police at first suspect artist Pablo Picasso and poet Guillaume Apollinaire, who were known to have purchased minor artworks pilfered from the Louvre. Two years later Vincenzo Perruggia, an Italian house painter intent on returning the painting to Italy, is apprehended in Florence—the painting is found in his trunk among old shoes, hats, and plastering tools

1911 Author, critic, editor, fan, and true Renaissance man of the mystery world Anthony Boucher (pseudonym of William Anthony Parker White) is born in Oakland, California. In 1951 he begins the Criminals at Large column for *The New York Times Book Review*, becoming one of the most influential and insightful critics within the genre. After his death in 1968 the annual convention of mystery fandom first convened under the name Bouchercon



Anthony Boucher's second Fergus O'Breen novel, first published in 1939. *Pocket Books Copyright © 1939 by Pocket Books. Reprinted by permission of Pocket Books, a division of Simon & Schuster, Inc*

1912 Holmes parodist Robert L. Fish is born in Cleveland. The versatile, witty Fish caricatures the Holmes canon with the inept Schlock Homes of 221B Bagel Street (*The Incredible Schlock Homes*, 1966). He also creates Brazilian cop Captain José da Silva, carrying him through ten mysteries beginning with *The Fugitive*, which wins the Edgar for best first novel of 1962, and under the pseudonym Robert L. Pike writes realistic police procedurals such as *Mute Witness* (1963), the basis for the classic Steve McQueen thriller *Bullitt* (1968).

1921 Ross H. Spencer, author of the bizarre Chance Perdue private-eye novels (*The Dada Caper*, 1977), in which each sentence constitutes its own paragraph, is born in Youngstown, Ohio.

•22•

1920 Renowned science fiction and fantasy writer Ray Bradbury is born in Illinois. Bradbury uses elements of mystery and horror in his many short stories and novels, and writes *Death Is a Lonely Business* (1986) as a paean to the hard-boiled fiction he loved as a youth.

1927 Josef von Sternberg's classic film *Underworld* is released. The first true Hollywood gangster movie, it features a script by Ben Hecht and performances by George Bancroft as Bull Weed the crime lord, Clive Brook as Rolls Royce the henchman with a heart of gold, and Evelyn Brent as Feathers the moll.

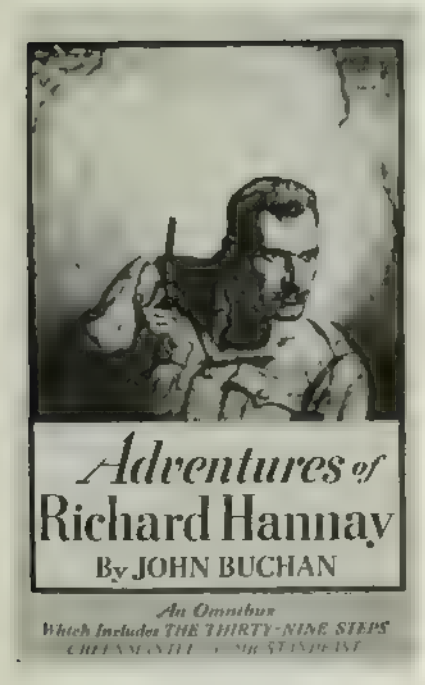
•23•

1927 Reads *The New York Times* headline: SACCO AND VANZETTI PUT TO DEATH EARLY THIS MORNING; GOVERNOR FULLER REJECTS LAST-MINUTE PLEAS FOR DELAY AFTER A DAY OF LEGAL MOVES AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

•24•

•25•

1930 Sean Connery, the one true James Bond of the cinema, is born in Edinburgh. Connery portrays a wide range of mystery heroes—including William of Baskerville, the medieval Sherlock in the 1986 film version of Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*, and giving an Oscar-winning performance as the tough Chicago flatfoot Malone in Brian DePalma and David Mamet's film *The Untouchables* (1987).



Richard Hannay in a manly pose from the jacket of a Buchan omnibus. *Houghton Mifflin*

•26•

1875 John Buchan, who along with E. Phillips Oppenheim is the most successful writer of British shockers in the pre–World War II years, is born in Broughton Green, Peeblesshire, Scotland. Buchan's hero, Richard Hannay, has many

adventures—the best being *The Thirty-nine Steps* (1915), immortalized on the screen by Robert Donat in Alfred Hitchcock's 1935 classic thriller

1884 Earl Derr Biggers, best known as the creator of the inscrutable Charlie Chan, is born in Warren, Ohio. Biggers's first success is the novel *Seven Keys to Baldpate* (1917), but in such books as *The House Without a Key* (1925) and *Keeper of the Keys* (1932) he attempts, through Chan, to counteract the prevailing image of the sinister Oriental that had dominated popular fiction since the nineteenth century

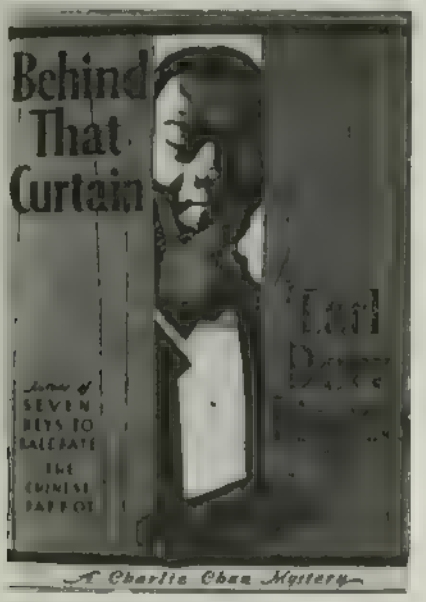
• 27 •

1929 Birth in New York City of Ira Levin, author of one of the cleverest first novels in mystery fiction, *A Kiss Before Dying* (1953), which receives an Edgar. Levin's greatest fame comes with *Rosemary's Baby* (1967)—a seminal work of modern horror fiction. A playwright as well as a novelist, his *Deathtrap* (1978)—a comedy-thriller with more twists than a pretzel—is a huge Broadway success

1932 Lady Antonia Fraser, author of the Jemima Shore Investigator series, is born in London. Fraser's amateur sleuth is a television reporter who gets involved in bizarre crimes

1947 *Kiss of Death*, Henry Hathaway's crime thriller, is

Mary Shelley, author of *Frankenstein*. *Bodleian Library, Oxford*



Earl Derr Biggers, creator of Charlie Chan; from the jacket of the third Chan novel in 1928 (*above*); Sidney Toler as Charlie Chan in a publicity still from the 1940s (*opposite page*). *Toler, Twentieth Century-Fox*

released. Richard Widmark becomes a star based on his spine-chilling performance as Tommy Udo, the most amoral killer ever to stalk the silver screen.

•28•

1814 One of the innovators of the modern mystery novel, Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu, is born in Dublin. Best known for his ghost and horror stories—most notably "Green Tea"—Le Fanu creates investigators who are not omnipotent. Rather, the murder mysteries are solved by collective observation and reasoning, and often by blind chance (*Uncle Silas*, 1864).

1946 One of the quintessential noir films, *The Killers*, is released. Directed by Robert Siodmak and based on a story by Ernest Hemingway, it is the tale of two hit men who come to a small town to find their target—the Swede.

•29•

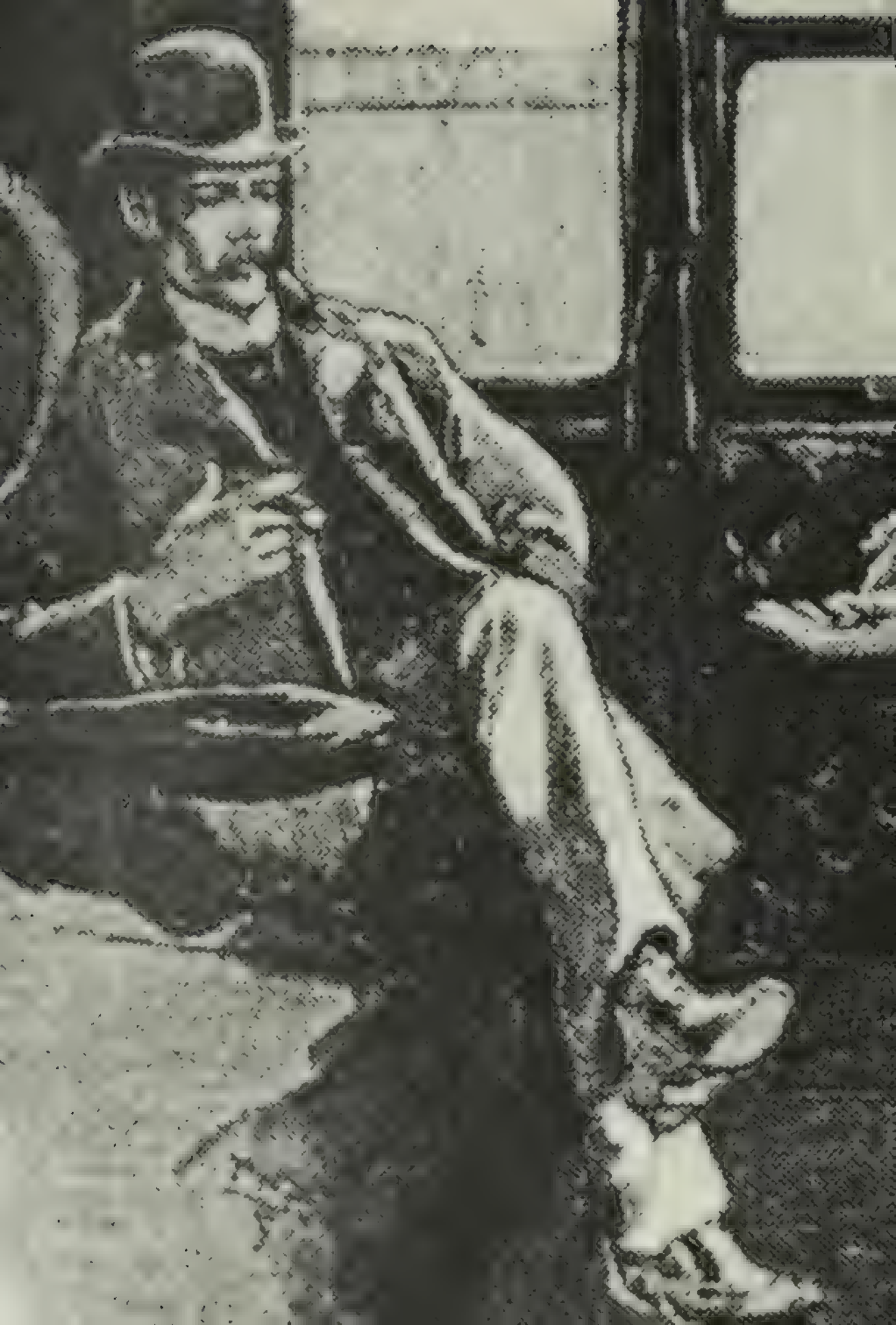
1967 The final episode of the classic chase series *The Fugitive* airs on ABC. David Janssen stars as Dr. Richard Kimble, a man falsely accused of his wife's murder. In the show's final broadcast (viewed by more people than any single series episode in the history of television until the mystery of "Who Shot J.R.?" was solved on *Dallas* in 1980) Kimble finally catches up with the true killer—the mysterious one-armed man.

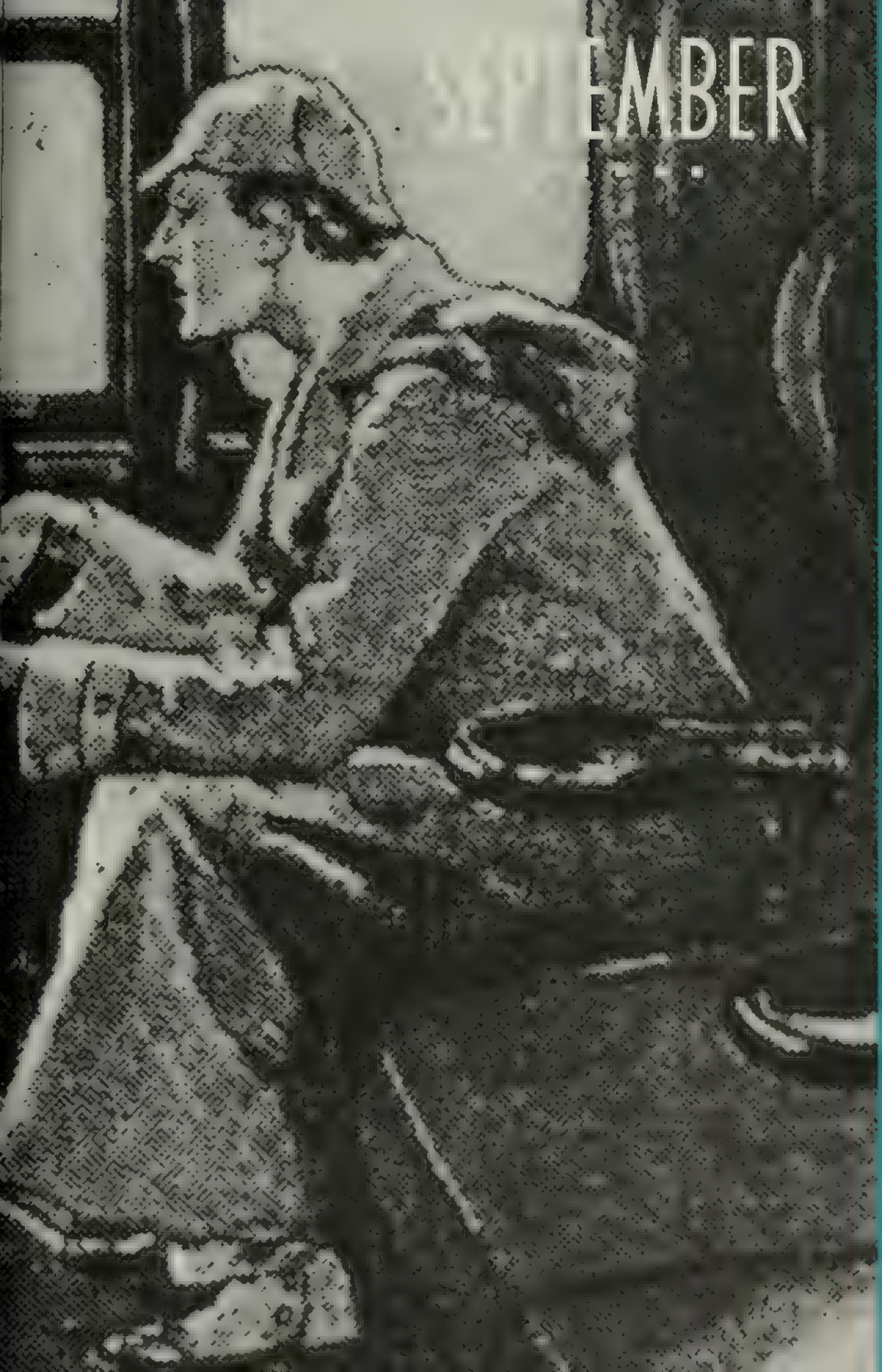
•30•

1797 Mary Shelley, creator of a mythical monster and daughter of an author and a feminist, is born in London. In 1818, while on a holiday with her husband, Percy Bysshe Shelley, Lord Byron, and Dr. John Polidori, Mary Shelley spins a ghostly tale to make the blood run cold—*Frankenstein: or, the Modern Prometheus*

•31•

1946 Howard Hawks's film adaptation of Raymond Chandler's *The Big Sleep* is released by Warner Bros. Made to capitalize on the Bogart-Bacall star chemistry, the studio's advertising concentrates on another aspect of the film: THE VIOLENCE—THE SCREEN'S ALL-TIME ROCKER-SHOCKER!!




EMBER

• 1 •

1888 Arthur W. Upfield, creator of the half-aborigine, half-English detective Napoleon "Bony" Bonaparte, is born in Gosport, Hampshire. Bonaparte, who receives his name as an infant after being found attempting to eat a biography of the French emperor, stars in such books as *No Footprints in the Bush* (1944) and *The Bone Is Pointed* (1947).

1935 Victor "the Count" Lustig, a con man who sells the Eiffel Tower not once but twice to gullible Parisian scrap dealers, escapes from the Washington FBI detention center but is later reapprehended by U.S. Treasury agents.

1939 *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, directed by Alfred Werker and starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce as Holmes and Watson, is released. Perhaps the finest of all Rathbone's Holmes films, *The Adventures* features lavish sets and costumes, plus an excellent screenplay that has Professor Moriarty (played by horror film stalwart George Zucco) scheming to heist the Crown jewels.

1948 *Sorry, Wrong Number*, starring Barbara Stanwyck and Burt Lancaster, is released. Based on Lucille Fletcher's radio play, it is the terrifying story of an invalid heiress who, because of crossed phone wires, overhears two men plotting to kill her.

1951 *Martin Kane, Private Eye* premieres on NBC. William Gargan stars in this, the first successful television crime-drama series.

• 2 •

1847 One of the first female detectives is created by George R. Sims, born in London. Sims creates Dorcas Dene in the alliterative short story collection *Dorcas Dene, Detective* (1897).

1949 Raoul Walsh's *White Heat* is released. A postwar version of the early 1930s gangster melodramas, *White Heat* stars James Cagney as the doomed Cody Jarrett, who at the point of death at the hands of the police is finally on "top of the world!"

1968 *I Spy*, the popular TV espionage series, broadcasts its final episode. Beginning in 1965 and starring Robert Culp and Bill Cosby, the show provides plenty of spy action, tempered with sly humor—and was the first American dramatic series to feature a black actor in a starring role.

• 3 •

• 4 •

1900 Alfred Alexander Gordon Clark, who achieves fame writing as Cyril Hare, is born in Mickleham, Surrey. A lawyer whose knowledge of the criminal courts comes to life

Opening photo, September 1. The inspiration for a host of movies—Sherlock Holmes explicates a fine point to Dr. Watson, his companion in detection

in a series of fictional cases involving Francis Pettigrew, an aging and bitter barrister, Hare writes such classic legal mysteries as *With a Bare Bodkin* (1946) and *Tragedy at Law* (1942).

•5•

1921 Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle, after Charlie Chaplin the best-loved film comedian of his day, allegedly rapes starlet Virginia Rappe during a drunken party at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco. Rappe dies several days later of a ruptured bladder. Arbuckle is tried three times on murder charges and finally acquitted, but his career in film is ruined.

•6•

1896 Richard Henry Sampson is born in London. Deeply influenced by Francis Iles's *Malice Aforethought*, Sampson adopts the pseudonym Richard Hull and uses the "inverted" technique in his first and best mystery, *The Murder of My Aunt* (1934). Seen through the eyes of an extremely nasty young man who wishes to kill his equally obnoxious aunt to inherit her fortune, the novel is considered a comic masterpiece.

1925 Rupert Julian's classic film version of *The Phantom of the Opera* is released. Sometimes considered a horror movie because of Lon Chaney's superb performance in the title role, the story is actually one of gothic suspense, and contains many elements of mystery and detection.

The original Phantom of the Opera, painted by Andre Castaigne for the first French and American editions of the book

•7•

1944 Billy Wilder's film adaptation of *Double Indemnity*, starring Fred MacMurray and Barbara Stanwyck, is released. Based on James M. Cain's novel and with a screenplay cowritten by Raymond Chandler, this is Wilder's best film noir.

•8•

1935 Huey "Kingfish" Long, senator of Louisiana, is assassinated in the state capitol building by Dr. Carl Austin Weiss. Long's bodyguards riddle Weiss with bullets; Weiss is dead before he hits the floor.

•9•

1900 Famed author of the light classics *Lost Horizon* (1933) and *Goodbye, Mr. Chips* (1934) James Hilton is born in Leigh, Lancashire. What many people do not know is that Hilton is also responsible for one of the classic detective novels of the Golden Age, *Murder at School* (1931). Published in the United Kingdom under the pseudonym Glen Trevor and later released as *Was It Murder?* in the United States under Hilton's own name, this mystery is set at a boarding school not unlike Mr. Chipping's.

1903 Best-selling romantic suspense author Phyllis A. Whitney, whose many gothic novels (*The Red Carnelian*, 1943; *Rainbows in the Mist*, 1989) are considered classics of the genre, is born in Yokohama. The Mystery Writers of America award Whitney the title of Grand Master in 1988.

1921 Mickey Spillane's hard-boiled style turned into bawdy farce is the trademark of Richard S. Prather, born in Santa Ana, California. Prather wrote the incredibly successful Shell Scott private eye series—which sells more than forty million copies in the fifties and sixties. Among Scott's adventures are *Darling, It's Death* (1952) and *Gat Heat* (1967). Prather receives the lifetime achievement award of the Private Eye Writers of America in 1986.

1927 Paul Leni's classic haunted house thriller *The Cat and the Canary* is released. This film, in which a seemingly spectral "cat" proves to be all too human in his nocturnal pursuit of beautiful heiress Laura La Plante, features many aspects of German expressionist movie technique—learned by Leni in Berlin before he made his move to Hollywood.

• 10 •

1922 The first American film version of *The Hound of the Baskervilles* opens. Eile Norwood plays Sherlock Holmes, and none too well. *The New York Times* writes: "Maybe the Doyle stories are not suitable screen material. It is possible that motion pictures cannot reveal the true Holmes."

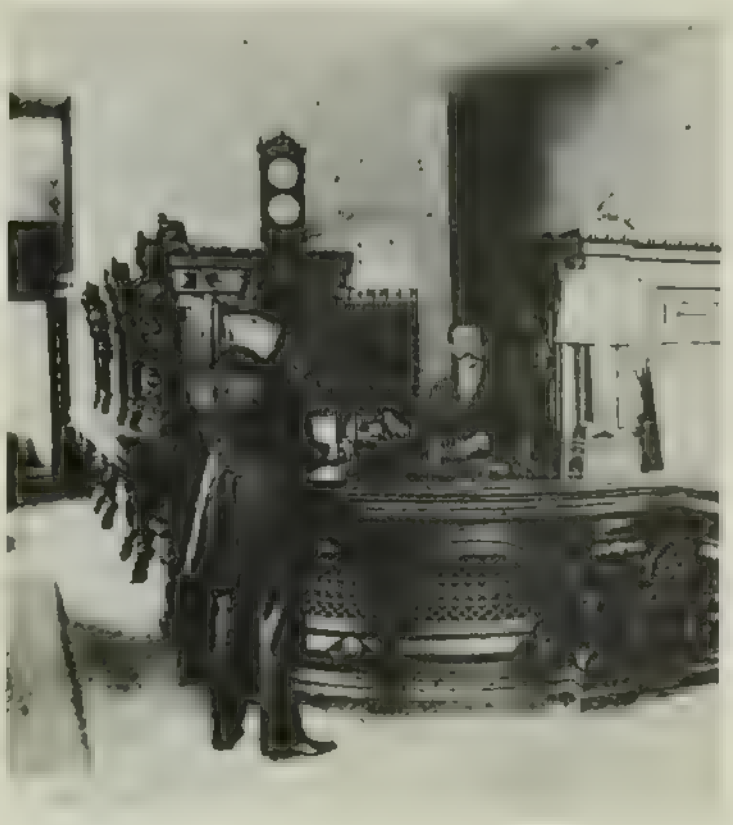
1936 Peter Lovesey is born in Whitton, Middlesex. Creator of Victorian detectives Sergeant Cribb and Constable Thackeray (*Wobble to Death*, 1970), Lovesey is well known for his brilliant and expertly researched historical detective stories. His recent novels, including *The False Inspector Dew* (1982) and *On the Edge* (1989), show his delightful, often bizarre sense of humor and talent for clever plotting.

• 11 •

1821 Erastus Beadle, born in Pierstown, New York, and his brother Irwin found Beadle's Dime Novels in the late 1800s. Their success leads to the first massive distribution of cheap American fiction—including popular mystery and suspense titles.

1862 O. Henry (pseudonym of William Sidney Porter) is born in Greensboro, North Carolina. His classic short story "A Retrieved Reformation," about a charming young burglar who gives up his criminal career for a beautiful girl, becomes one of the most famous mystery plays in the American theater, under the title *Alias Jimmy Valentine* (1910).

1939 A versatile mystery writer, John Lutz, is born in Dallas. Lutz has written tales of psychological suspense (*The Truth of the Matter*, 1971), police procedurals (*Shadowtown*, 1988), horror stories (*Bonegrinder*, 1977), and two outstand-



O. Henry edited a nineteenth-century magazine called *The Rolling Stone*. Shunning the as-yet-to-be-invented rock music scene, the magazine instead focused on humor
Austin Travis Library

ing private-eye series—one featuring Alo Nudger (*Dancer's Debt*, 1988), the other featuring Florida ex-cop Fred Carver (*Scorcher*, 1987).

• 12 •

• 13 •

1894 J.B. Priestley is born in Bradford, Yorkshire. Priestley's *The Old Dark House*—published in 1927 in England as *Benighted*—is so frequently imitated that its "gathering of disparate persons in a spooky house during a midnight rainstorm" becomes a cliché of the genre

1916 Roald Dahl is born in London. Dahl's collections of short stories, including *Someone Like You* (1953) and *Kiss, Kiss* (1960), contain several classics of short suspense and terror. His best-known tale is "Lamb to the Slaughter," in which the police eat the evidence.

1974 The celebrated TV private-eye series *The Rockford Files*, starring James Garner as Jim Rockford, is launched

• 14 •

1874 Champion title-maker and Canadian mystery author Arthur Stringer is born in Chatham, Ontario. Stringer's most entertaining title may be *The Man Who Couldn't Sleep Being a Relation of the Divers Strange Adventures Which Befell One Witter Kerfoot When, Sorely Troubled with Sleep*

lessness. He Ventured Forth at Midnight Along the Highways and Byways of Manhattan (1919)

1889 Carroll John Daly is born in Yonkers, New York. Best known as the creator of Race Williams, one of the first hard-boiled dicks ("Knights of the Open Palm," published in *Black Mask*, June 1923), Daly also creates the *actual* first, Terry Mack, in "Three Gun Terry" (*Black Mask*, May 1923). This latter story preceded Dashiell Hammett's first hard-boiled story featuring the Continental Op by four months.

• 15 •

1890 Dame Agatha Christie is born in Torquay, Devonshire. Not only a best-selling mystery writer, Christie is the most widely read author of our time. Her novels define the British "puzzle" mysteries of the Golden Age. Christie's detective creations include the septuagenarian amateur sleuth Miss Jane Marple and he of the "little grey cells," Belgian investigator Hercule Poirot. *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* (1926), considered one of the most important works in the genre, creates a stir upon publication due to its unorthodox solution. *And Then There Were None* (originally published as *Ten Little Niggers*, 1939), a masterful thriller rather than an exercise in pure detection, inspires countless imitations.

1971 *Columbo*, among the finest TV detective programs ever conceived, starring Peter Falk as the disheveled lieutenant, premieres. An interesting sidenote is that Bing Crosby had been offered the role but turned it down in order to concentrate on his golf game.

• 16 •

1918 Charles Chapin, editor on *The New York Evening World*, murders his wife, Nellie. Sentenced to life at Sing Sing prison, Chapin plants a series of gardens within and without the prison walls, becoming known as Sing Sing's Rose Man.

1935 Movie star Thelma Todd is found dead of asphyxiation in a blood-splashed car in the garage of her restaurant near Malibu. Todd, who was featured in the Marx Brothers films *Monkey Business* (1931) and *Horse Feathers* (1932), as well as a series of successful comedy shorts, is rumored to have defied L.A. gangsters who wanted to open a gambling establishment above the restaurant. However, her killer is never found.

• 17 •

1908 John Creasey is born in Southfields, Surrey. Creasey writes prodigiously under many pseudonyms, the most famous being J. J. Marric. He writes more than 560 straightforward, fast-moving crime novels under twenty-eight names with one goal in mind: to entertain. Creasey's best-known series character, the Honorable Richard Rollison, aka the

Dame Agatha Christie, first recipient of the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Award in 1954 (*top*), strong jacket art from the 1942 Miss Marple novel *The Moving Finger Portrait, Godfrey Argent/Dodd Mead*

The Toff's calling card—not quite as simple and elegant as the Saint's

Toff, is a typically British upper-class adventurer not unlike Charteris's Saint

1932 Robert Parker, creator of Spenser—with an *s*, like the English poet—is born. A detective with discriminating taste for fine food, good drink, and top-notch conditioning, Spenser is hard-boiled yet sophisticated. His wisecracking style contrasts with his moral debates. He and his companions, girlfriend Susan Silverman, a school counselor, and Hawk, his sometime partner, have appeared in *The Godwulf Manuscript*, *Ceremony*, and many other mysteries as well as the television series *Spenser for Hire*. In 1989 he was paid $1 million to complete Raymond Chandler's unfinished manuscript, *Poodle Springs*.

1965 Featuring a fetching femme fatale, *Honey West* has its debut on ABC. A sort of female James Bond, Honey is the epitome of the 1960s free-spirited television heroine. Anne Francis stars.

• 18 •

1872 William MacHarg, the first novelist to use a lie detector in a story, is born in Dover Plains, New York. With Edwin Balmer, MacHarg writes the short story collection *The Achievements of Luther Trant* (1910), one of the first crime fiction books to use modern psychology as its primary means of detection.

1967 *Point Blank*—John Boorman's film version of Richard Stark's novel *The Hunter*—is released. Lee Marvin stars as the cold-blooded criminal Parker—called Walker in the movie. An extremely violent and expressionistic film, *Point Blank* represents the epitome of 1960s noir.

• 19 •

1879 Louis Joseph Vance is born in Washington, D.C. Inspired by the French rogue-hero Arsene Lupin, Vance creates the sophisticated safecracker Michael Lanyard, better known as the Lone Wolf (*The False Faces*, 1915). Lanyard appears in eight novels and becomes a movie hero in a successful series of films beginning in 1917 and stretching into 1949.

• 20 •

• 21 •

1866 Historian, philosopher, science fiction writer, and man of letters H.G. Wells is born in Bromley, Kent. Several of Wells's novels use elements of mystery and suspense—including *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (1896) and *The Invisible Man* (1897).

1924 Master of the contemporary police procedural novel Collin Wilcox is born in Detroit. Wilcox creates the long-suffering homicide detective Lt. Frank Hastings (*The Lonely*

Hunter, 1969, *The Pariah*, 1988), whose cases blend realistic crime investigation with a love for the mean streets of San Francisco.

1957 *Perry Mason*, starring Raymond Burr as Erle Stanley Gardner's attorney-detective, has its television premiere.

•22•

1944 *The Pearl of Death*, a rather mediocre Sherlock Holmes film in the Basil Rathbone–Nigel Bruce series, is released. Based loosely on Conan Doyle's story "The Six Napoleons," the film is noteworthy for the screen debut of Rondo Hatton, a deformed actor who plays the homicidal "Creeper."

1958 Mary Roberts Rinehart, founder of the Had-I-But-Known school of mystery, dies at eighty-two.

1958 Peter Gunn, Ivy League private investigator, makes his debut in the TV series carrying his name. Craig Stevens plays the title role, with Herschel Bernardi cast as Gunn's police connection, Lieutenant Jacoby. The jazz theme music, by Henry Mancini, was later released on two successful record albums by RCA.

•23•

1865 Emmuska, Baroness Orczy, is born in Tarna-Örs, Hungary. The baroness creates the first of the great armchair detectives, the Old Man in the Corner. The Old Man sits in a tea shop in London and is brought the most mystifying police cases by reporter Polly Burton. Knotting and unknotting a bit of string, the Old Man takes the facts and sneeringly delivers the solution (*The Old Man in the Corner Unravels the Mystery of the Russian Prince and of Dog's Tooth Cliff*, 1924). Even more famous than the Old Man, however, is the baroness's adventurer, the Scarlet Pimpernel, who takes his name from a wildflower that blossoms and dies in the same night (*The Elusive Pimpernel*, 1908).

1935 The first of a dozen victims of the killer who would come to be known as the Torso Killer and the Mad Butcher of Cleveland is found in the city's industrial area. Known for chopping up his corpses, the Mad Butcher is never apprehended.

•24•

1896 The great American writer F. Scott Fitzgerald is born in St. Paul, Minnesota. The first fiction he writes is a murder story, "The Mystery of the Raymond Mortgage," produced in 1909, when the author is thirteen.

•25•

1888 The London police receive their first letter signed "Jack the Ripper," which arrives shortly before the Ripper carries

William Faulkner, whose knowledge of the classical detective story figures in the plot structure of his brilliant 1936 novel *Absalom, Absalom!*

Cover of the first American edition of *The Man in the Corner* (1909). The Old Man is pictured with his beloved length of string, which takes on ominous significance in this story

out his only double murder. The writer threatens to "clip the lady's ears off," which is exactly what the Ripper attempts to do with Catherine Eddowes and Elizabeth Stride

1897 Nobel Prize–winning American author William Faulkner is born in New Albany, Mississippi. Faulkner's gothic tales of the South often contain elements of mystery, crime, and detection. His 1931 melodramatic novel *Sanctuary* is a story of corruption peopled with hookers, half-wits, and bootleggers, while his attorney "Uncle" Gavin Stevens, in *Intruder in the Dust* (1948), wrestles with Southern justice while defending a young black man accused of murder

1898 Richard Lockridge, who coauthors with wife Frances the phenomenally popular Mr. and Mrs. North novels, is born in St. Joseph, Missouri. The Norths, an urbane New York couple, somehow encounter murder wherever they go in a long series of novels (*The Norths Meet Murder*, 1940), radio plays, and television shows in the 1940s and 1950s.

Bulldog Drummond in bondage, no doubt about to hear every detail of archvillain Carl Peterson's latest scheme

•26•

1932 The first series of *Fu Manchu* radio dramas premieres on CBS. Sax Rohmer himself is on hand at the opening broadcast

1948 *The Adventures of Philip Marlowe* begins on the CBS radio network. Gerald Mohr stars as a *very* hard-boiled Marlowe, given to lecturing thugs on the evils of crime

•27•

•28•

1873 Émile Gaboriau, creator of Monsieur Lecoq—whose renown in the late 1800s brings about Sherlock Holmes's jealous estimation of him as a "miserable bungler"—dies in Paris at age thirty-seven

1888 Sapper (pseudonym of Herman Cyril McNeile) is born in Bodmin, Cornwall. Sapper authors a series of extremely popular adventure-cum-espionage novels featuring the blunt, two-fisted Bulldog Drummond (*Bulldog Drum-*

In addition to her mystery writing, Ellis Peters is an award-winning translator of poetry and prose from the Czech under her own name of Edith Pargeter (*top*); Elizabeth Peters/Barbara Michaels with friend

Ellis Peters, Roy Morgan; Elizabeth Peters, Joan Bingham

mond The Adventures of a Demobilized Officer Who Found Peace Dull, 1920; *Female of the Species*, 1928). Never ones to use their brains when their knuckles will suffice, Bulldog and his buddies take it upon themselves to do battle with England's enemies—the Boche, the Bolsheviks, and non-Brits of every stripe.

1913 Historian turned mystery writer Ellis Peters (pseudonym of Edith Mary Pargeter) is born in Horsehay, Shropshire. Peters uses her knowledge of medieval times to create the Chronicles of Brother Cadfael—tales of a twelfth-century Benedictine monk who uses his knowledge of human nature to solve crimes (*A Morbid Taste for Bones*, 1977; *A Rare Benedictine*, 1988)

1945 The classic Joan Crawford melodrama with murder *Mildred Pierce*, based on James M. Cain's novel, is released.

•29•

1927 Barbara G. Mertz, who writes two kinds of novels under two pseudonyms, is born in Canton, Illinois. Mertz's Barbara Michaels books usually feature historical backgrounds with a somewhat supernatural atmosphere (*Search the Shadows*, 1987). As Elizabeth Peters, Mertz concentrates on more modern settings with mysteries dealing with art and archaeology (*The Deeds of the Disturber*, 1988). This witty and talented author is awarded the first Grand Master Anthony Award at the 1986 Bouchercon

•30•

1906 Academic author Michael Innes (pseudonym of John Innes Mackintosh Stewart) is born in Edinburgh. Inspector John Appleby, this Oxford scholar's detective creation, is a good-mannered, erudite policeman who is often called upon to solve murder mysteries in academia. His thorough knowledge of Shakespeare stands him good stead in the classic *Hamlet, Revenge!* (1937)

1913 The police commissioner of San Francisco attempts to clean up the Barbary Coast, a particularly lawless district in the city, by outlawing liquor, prostitution, and dancing

1935 The first "Dick Tracy" serial debuts on the Mutual radio network. Each episode opens with a burst of radio static and Tracy's laconic synopsis of the action—spoken into his two-way wrist radio, of course

OCTOBER

• 1 •

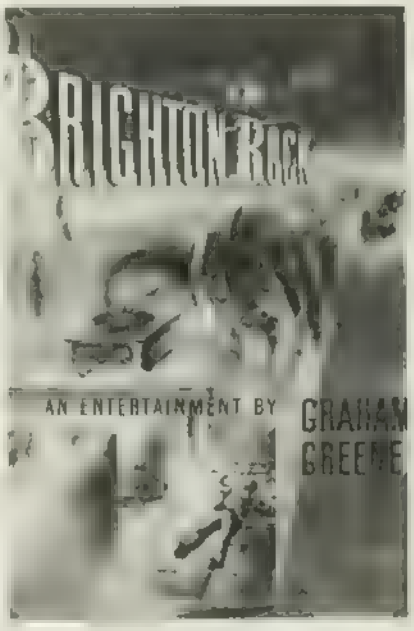
1910 In response to the antiunion editorials of *Los Angeles Times* owner Harrison Gray Otis, unionists John and Jim McNamara plant a bomb in the printing department of the newspaper. It explodes, killing twenty-one workers.

1920 Dog-faced American actor Walter Matthau is born in New York City. Matthau takes on many roles in the crime and mystery genre, including Per Wohlöö and Maj Sjöwall's Martin Beck—transported from Stockholm to San Francisco by a flick of a screenwriter's pen in *The Laughing Policeman* (1973)

• 2 •

1904 Graham Greene is born in Berkhampsted, Hertfordshire. Greene, who authors both serious novels and "entertainments"—his word for his crime and espionage thrillers—concerns himself with his characters' motivations and inner turmoil rather than with plot machinations (*Brighton Rock*, 1938). Films made from his novels include Fritz Lang's 1944 espionage thriller *The Ministry of Fear*, with Ray Milland, and Carol Reed's 1949 classic *The Third Man*, featuring Orson Welles as the corrupt Harry Lime and Anton Karas's immortal zither theme.

1955 *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, one of the great TV suspense-anthology series, premieres on CBS. Featuring witty, sardonic introductions and conclusions by the great director, the program offers fine suspense tales with twist—and twisted—endings



Jacket from the first American edition of Greene's *Brighton Rock* (1938); the 1947 film starred Richard Attenborough and Carol Marsh. *Viking Penguin*

• 3 •

1925 Erudite essayist, playwright, and novelist Gore Vidal is born in West Point, New York. In the early fifties Vidal, writing as Edgar Box, publishes a trio of mysteries featuring public relations man Peter Cutler Sargeant II (*Death in the Fifth Position*, 1952). The Box novels are periodically reissued over the next twenty-five years—often with a glowing quote from Vidal himself on the cover!

1941 The definitive film version of Hammett's *Maltese Falcon* is released, directed by John Huston (his first film), and starring Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Sydney Greenstreet, and Peter Lorre

• 4 •

1895 Buster Keaton is born in a vaudeville trunk somewhere on the roads of the Midwest. One of Keaton's most impressive comedies as director and star is his 1924 film *Sherlock, Jr.*, in which he enters a silent movie screen to take on duty as the film-within-a-film's detective

1931 Chester Gould's comic strip hero Dick Tracy—who coins the classic phrases "Crime does not pay" and "Little crimes lead to big crimes"—first appears in the newspaper.

1972 Attempting to capitalize on their successful TV series *I Spy*, Robert Culp and Bill Cosby star in the crime thriller *Hickey and Boggs*

• 5 •

1915 The first real pulp magazine, *Detective Story*, appears Created in the form of the *Nick Carter Library* of dime novels, *Detective Story* lasts until 1949

• 6 •

1916 Stanley Ellin, among the finest writers of mystery and suspense short stories of the late twentieth century, is born in Brooklyn. His best-known tale is his first, "The Specialty of the House" (1948)—a subtle story of cannibalism in modern-day New York. His 1958 novel *The Eighth Circle* earns him the Best Novel Edgar from the Mystery Writers of America, which also names him Grand Master in 1983.

• 7 •

1907 Espionage novelist Helen MacInnes is born in Glasgow. MacInnes's works often feature international backdrops, romance, and breathtaking intrigue (*Above Suspicion*, 1941; *The Salzburg Connection*, 1968).

1954 *Suddenly*, a taut, suspenseful thriller starring Frank Sinatra and Sterling Hayden, is released. Sinatra is cast against type as a vicious and sadistic assassin who holds a family hostage. Interestingly, the film's title is the name of the town where the action takes place.

1971 William Friedkin's Oscar winner *The French Connection* opens. Based on a true story, the movie classic follows New York cop "Popeye" Doyle—brilliantly played by Gene Hackman—in his unrelenting search for the Frenchman responsible for a huge heroin shipment worth $30 million

Stanley Ellin produced approximately one short story a year—each a masterpiece. *Laurie Leber*

• 8 •

1850 M. McDonnell Bodkin, whose books are linked by wedlock and birth, is born in Dublin. An author of late-1800s mystery fiction, Bodkin has the hero of his first novel marry the heroine of the second. In his third novel the couple produces a child, who succeeds them as the detective in Bodkin's fourth book.

• 9 •

1900 The superb British character actor Alastair Sim is born in Edinburgh. Sim portrays Christianna Brand's sardonic detective Inspector Cockrill in the 1946 film *Green for Danger*.

1918 E. Howard Hunt, Jr., who proves that fact can be stranger than fiction, is born in Hamburg, New York. Hunt writes a long-running series of espionage-macho adventure novels, but his own adventures—during the Bay of Pigs inva-

sion and as the head Watergate "plumber," far outdo his novels in suspense or danger

1939 James McClure is born in Johannesburg. McClure's long-running series about white Afrikaaner policeman Kramer and black Bantu policeman Zondi examines the racist apartheid system while delivering clever and tightly plotted mysteries (*The Steam Pig*, 1971; *The Artful Egg*, 1984)

10•11

•12•

1904 Prolific pulp writer Lester Dent is born in La Plata, Missouri. Dent uses the pseudonym Kenneth Robeson to create Doc Savage, "the Man of Bronze," in 1935. This nearly superhuman hero and his merry band of adventurers does battle with many an evil genius with dreams of world domination (*Quest of the Spider*, 1935; *The Spook Legion*, 1967)

1939 Soldier, bartender, roughneck, and finally mystery author James Crumley is born in Three Rivers, Texas Crumley sets his tough, beautifully written novels in the wide-open spaces of the American West. His private-eye heroes Sughrue (*The Last Good Kiss*, 1978) and Milodragovitch (*Dancing Bear*, 1983) wrestle with their obsessions and addictions in some of the best hard-boiled fiction of all time

A fan of Ed McBain and John D MacDonald, James McClure combines the meticulous style of the police procedural with clever plotting worthy of mystery's Golden Age. *Peter Farr*

•13•

1867 Guy Boothby, who creates the hypnotically gifted Dr. Nikola, a ruthless and unscrupulous evil genius of *fin de siècle* times (*The Lust of Hate*, 1898), is born in Adelaide, Australia. Boothby's 1897 book *The Prince of Swindlers*, features Simon Carne, one of the first gentlemen crooks—preceding Raffles by two years

•14•

1912 New York City saloon owner John Schrank shoots former president Theodore Roosevelt at a Milwaukee political rally. Roosevelt is carrying a copy of his speech in his coat pocket, so the bullet is slowed by the thick manuscript before it enters his chest. Roosevelt insists upon delivering his speech before going to the hospital. He survives the attack but carries the bullet inside him until he dies

1928 Handsome, debonair British leading man Roger Moore is born in London. Moore portrays Simon Templar, the Saint," in the classic long-running 1960s TV series. In 1973 he takes over the girls and gadgets of James Bond in the

Eye-catching jacket art from *Dancing Bear* (1983), the second Milodragovitch private eye novel *Random House*

Dr. Nikola, one of the more bizarre criminal masterminds of early crime fiction, from the first edition, 1896

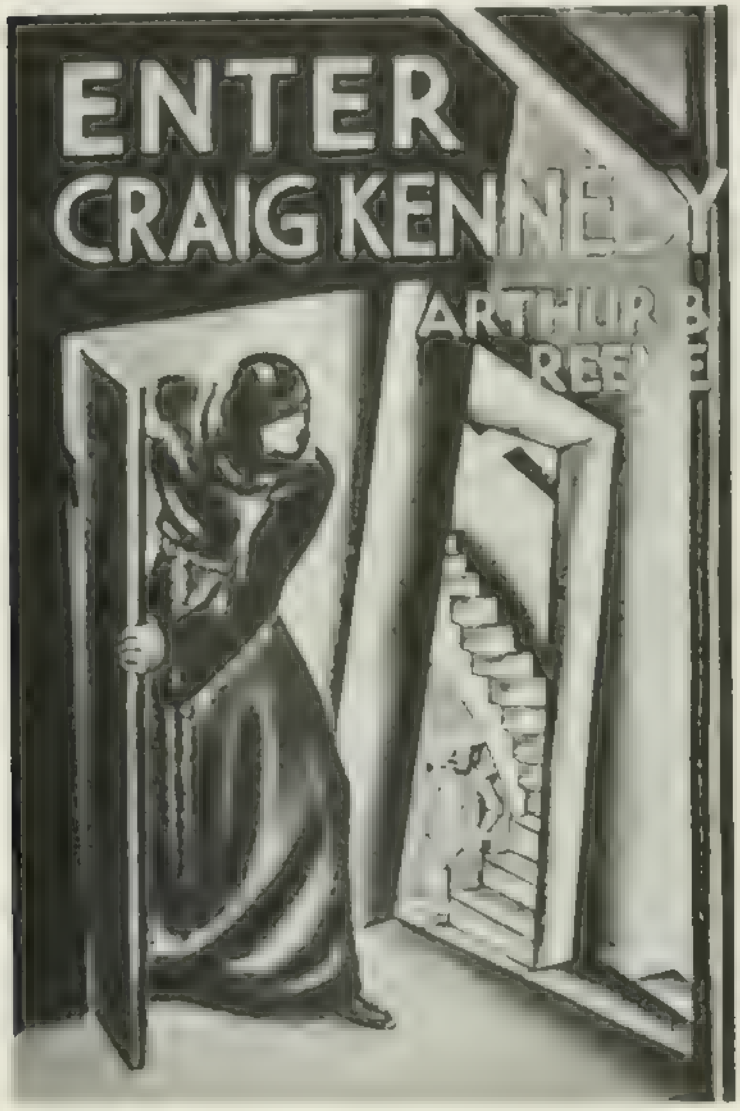
least expensive Bond film made, *Live and Let Die*, and continued in several films in the series until the mid-1980s

• 15 •

1880 Arthur B. Reeve, the first American mystery writer to achieve wide readership in England, is born in Patchogue, New York. Reeve's tales feature scientific detective Craig Kennedy—known as the American Sherlock Holmes—an intellectual who does not hesitate to use physical violence when circumstances demand it (*The Silent Bullet*, 1912)

1917 Exotic dancer and espionage agent Mata Hari is executed by a French firing squad

1926 The master of the modern cityscape, Evan Hunter, is born in New York City. As Ed McBain, he is an innovator and serves as master of the police procedural form. McBain's cops of the 87th Precinct investigate realistic crime in and around the mythical city of Isola—a thinly disguised New York (*Cop Hater*, 1956; *Vespers*, 1990). Under his own name



A Caligari-like jacket illustration from a 1935 collection featuring Craig Kennedy, scientific detective

Hunter writes the seminal novel of urban juvenile delinquency, *The Blackboard Jungle* (1954). McBain's skill lies in the combination of brutal realism with slapstick humor, capturing the flavor of the modern city. McBain is awarded the Grand Master title by the Mystery Writers of America in 1986.

• 16 •

1888 The most apparently genuine of all Jack the Ripper's mocking letters is received by George Lusk of the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee. The note reads (in part): "Sir I send you half the Kidne I took from one woman prasarved it for you tother piece I fried and ate it was very nise . . . Catch me when you can Mishter Lusk." The note is accompanied by a small package containing a section of a human kidney.

1944 Brett Halliday's private eye Michael Shayne debuts on the west coast's Don Lee radio network. Starring Wally Maher in the title role, it goes national by 1946.

• 17 •

1893 Richard Connell, author of "The Most Dangerous Game"—the classic suspense story of the Russian aristocrat who finds that human prey makes the best hunting, is born in Poughkeepsie, New York. Connell writes many other works of fiction, none so well known, however.

• 18 •

1943 *Perry Mason* begins its radio life on the CBS network in a script prepared especially for radio by Erle Stanley Gardner. Bartlett Robinson plays Mason in the beginning episodes but is subsequently replaced by Donald Briggs and Santos Ortega, who also plays Nero Wolfe on radio.

• 19 •

1931 "The premier novelist of his time" (*Time*) and former British Intelligence agent John le Carré (pseudonym of David John Moore Cornwell) is born in Poole, Dorsetshire. Le Carré's Cold War espionage novels are the antithesis of the James Bond school of spy fiction: his heroes, most notably George Smiley, are world-weary civil servants who tend to be pawns in espionage games played by the system (*The Spy Who Came in from the Cold*, 1963; *The Russia House*, 1989).

The inimitable John le Carré
Sabine Weiss

A 1979 issue of *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, depicting the Queen team of Manfred B. Lee and Frederic Dannay. *Copyright © 1979 by Davis Publications Reprinted by permission of Davis Publications, Inc*

1942 Andrew Vachss is born in New York City. A criminal lawyer specializing in child protection cases, Vachss writes novels that look at the underbelly of New York City through the eyes of his "hero," Burke, an ex-con whose knowledge of crime makes him an extremely unorthodox private eye (*Flood*, 1985; *Hard Candy*, 1989)

• 20 •

1905 Half of the Ellery Queen team, Frederic Dannay, is born in Brooklyn. With his cousin Manfred B. Lee, Dannay creates Queen—perhaps the best-known American amateur detective hero. Queen enjoys a long run of novels, short stories, films, radio plays, and television series, and in 1941, Dannay and Lee begin *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, discovering many new writers—Stanley Ellin, Lillian de la Torre, and Harry Kemelman among them. Under Dannay's editorial guidance, *EQMM* publishes mystery stories by thirty Pulitzer and twelve Nobel Prize winners, including

John Steinbeck, Bertrand Russell, Pearl S. Buck, and Arthur Miller.

1930 Sherlock Holmes first comes to American radio *Sherlock Holmes* premieres on NBC with famed Sherlockian actor William Gillette in the leading role. The sponsor is George Washington Coffee

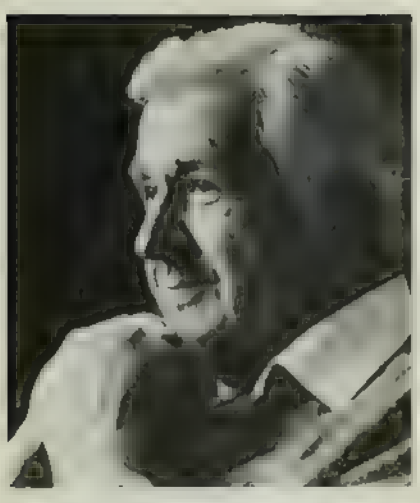
•21•

1926 Roderic Jeffries, son of mystery writer Bruce Graeme, is born in London. Jeffries continues his father's series about the adventures of Blackshirt, the safecracker with a heart of gold.

•22•

1866 Playboy and mystery author E. Phillips Oppenheim is born in London. Oppenheim, "the Prince of Storytellers," churns out 116 novels and thirty-nine short story collections, many of whose plots share certain similar details. The wealthy, blue-blooded Oppenheim often dictated his stories to the latest in a series of attractive secretaries, permitting her to "edit" as she saw fit. His best-known novel—the only one still widely read—is *The Great Impersonation* (1920)

1959 *The Beat Generation*, a classic B movie starring the great Mamie Van Doren (in a black turtleneck, no less!), is released. The story of two cops in pursuit of a robber known as the Aspirin Kid, the film is actually an exploitation of the then-current popularity of bebop, beards, bongos, and bad poetry.



Ted Allbeury's fascination with military history is evident in his thrillers, which range from French resistance groups to the latest advances in European and American spydom.

•23•

1906 RKO and Paramount screenwriter Jonathan Latimer is born in Chicago. Among his credits are the second film version of Hammett's *The Glass Key* (1942), Kenneth Fearing's *The Big Clock* (1948), and Cornell Woolrich's *The Night Has a Thousand Eyes* (1948). Latimer also authors the hard-boiled classic novel *Solomon's Vineyard* (1941).

1942 Scientist and science fiction writer Michael Crichton is born in Chicago. Crichton writes an excellent historical crime novel in *The Great Train Robbery* (1975) and receives an Edgar Award for the 1968 mystery *A Case of Need*, written under the name Jeffrey Hudson

•24•

1917 Ted Allbeury, the real-life inspiration for Len Deighton's espionage hero Harry Palmer, is born in Stockport, Cheshire. A lieutenant colonel in British Intelligence during World War II, Allbeury also wrote his own spy novels, featuring crisp, economical narration, high drama, and inside knowledge of the espionage game (*The Other Side of Silence*, 1981; *The Judas Factor*, 1984)

1962 John Frankenheimer's film version of the Richard

Condon novel *The Manchurian Candidate*, starring Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, and Angela Lansbury, is released. A Cold War thriller of mind control and assassination, the film is taken out of circulation after President John F. Kennedy is killed. Rereleased in 1988, it is acclaimed as one of the most stylistically important films of the 1960s.

•25•

1957 Mob hit man Albert "the Executioner" Anastasia sits down for a haircut at the Park Sheraton Hotel barbershop in New York City. Two men, their faces hidden by scarves, come up behind him and shoot him five times, killing him instantly. The killers are believed to be "Crazy Joey" Gallo and his equally nutty brother.

•26•

1886 Vincent Starrett, a distinguished scholar who specialized in detective fiction—Sherlock Holmes in particular—is born in Toronto. Starrett's best work is the classic study *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes* (1933). In addition to his nonfiction Starrett writes *The Unique Hamlet* (1920), considered to be the best Sherlockian pastiche. Here the great detective searches for the ultimate rare book: an inscribed first edition of Hamlet. In his autobiography, *Born in a Bookshop* (1965), Starrett refers to himself as a Dofab—a "damned old fool about books."

•27•

1906 The author of a nostalgic series of English detective stories, Elizabeth Lemarchand, is born in Barnstaple, Devonshire. Lemarchand's genteel mysteries feature Scotland Yard detectives Tom Pollard and Gregory Toye (*Light Through Glass*, 1984).

•28•

1945 Simon Brett, whose Charles Paris books combine the author's two major interests, theater and crime, is born in Worcester Park, Surrey. Paris is an unsuccessful London actor whose rare stage appearances always herald a dramatic increase in the murder rate (*What Bloody Man Is That?*, 1987).

1953 Agatha Christie's play *Witness for the Prosecution* opens at the Winter Garden Theatre, London. The short story on which the drama is based contains one of the author's finest surprise endings, but—not content to rest on her laurels—Christie concocts yet *another* shocking revelation to follow the first, and climax the stage version

•29•

1906 Prolific novelist and short story writer (most notably in the science fiction field) Fredric Brown is born in Cincinnati,

Ohio Brown publishes his first mystery novel, *The Fabulous Clipjoint*, in 1947. This Edgar-winning book introduces Brown's detective heroes Ed and Am Hunter, who appear in six more novels. Drawing on his experience working at a newspaper, Brown combines hard-boiled realism and Lewis Carroll fantasy in the classic *Night of the Jabberwock* (1950).

1964 Infamous jewel thief Jack Murphy (better known as Murph the Surf) and two of his beach bum cohorts break into the New York City Museum of Natural History and purloin the famed Star of India—the world's largest star sapphire. After their arrest, Murphy claims that he perfected the heist by repeatedly viewing Jules Dassin's classic caper film *Topkapi*.

•30•

•31•

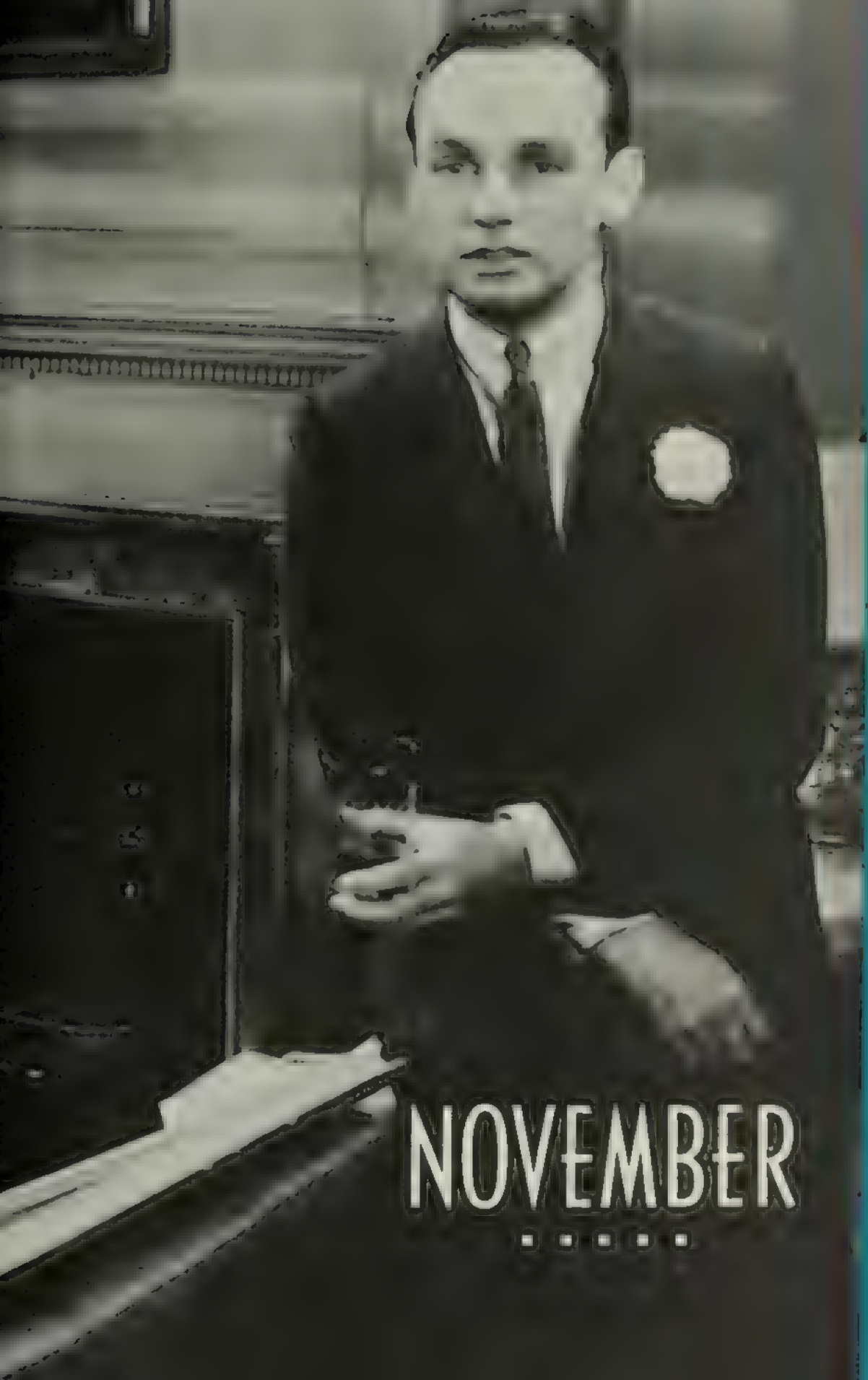
Dick Francis's first work as a professional writer was as a weekly racing columnist for the London *Sunday Express*, a position offered him shortly after his retirement from the turf.

1920 Possibly the most popular crime writer working today, Dick Francis is born in Tenby, South Wales. Formerly one of Her Majesty's jockeys, Francis draws upon his extensive knowledge of the turf in his best-selling thrillers. Winner of two Edgars for best novel (*Forfeit*, 1969, and *Whiphand*, 1980), Francis weaves tight plots about Hitchcockian heroes caught up in nefarious situations beyond their control.

1926 H.R.F. Keating, who writes mysteries set in the seductive continent of India, is born in St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex. Critic and novelist Keating writes of Inspector Ganesh Ghote of Bombay—an often bumbling policeman who nevertheless always gets his man. Vividly evoking post-Raj India, the Ghote novels combine lightly humorous writing with Keating's unswerving devotion to the art of the classic puzzle mystery (*The Perfect Murder*, 1965; *Dead on Time*, 1989).

1944 Country-western singer, songwriter, and bandleader turned mystery writer Kinky Friedman is born "somewhere in the Texas hill country." Friedman writes of his old haunts in the bars and clubs of Greenwich Village, telling of his fictional adventures in which he, along with his faithful companion Ratso, must act as detective. Kinky's wacky sense of humor and knowledge of New York's "music mills" are on display in *Greenwich Killing Time* (1986) and *A Case of Lone Star* (1987).

November 10. Peter Lorre (*left*) as the unassuming Mr. O. Moto. Though small and slender, Moto's knowledge of judo enabled him to dispose of assailants with the flick of a wrist. *Twentieth Century-Fox*



NOVEMBER

• 1 •

1863 Arthur Morrison is born in London. A dramatist and short story writer most interested in social reform, as evidenced by the atmospheric depiction of the Victorian slums of London (*Martin Hewitt, Investigator,* 1894), Morrison creates Martin Hewitt—a famous detective not unlike Sherlock Holmes. Like Holmes, Hewitt first appears in *The Strand* magazine, with illustrations by Sidney Paget.

1899 The real-life inspiration for Bulldog Drummond, Gerard Fairlie, is born in London. Upon the death of Sapper, Drummond's creator, in 1937, Fairlie takes on the job of churning out tales about the two-fisted adventurer (*Calling Bulldog Drummond*, 1951).

• 2 •

• 3 •

1890 Harry Stephen Keeler, inventor of the self-described "webwork" novel, is born in Chicago. To write his monumentally convoluted crime epics, Keeler goes to his crate of randomly clipped newspaper articles and works their disparate events into his bizarre plots—ultimately resolving every ridiculous complication to make perfect sense (*The Face of the Man from Saturn*, 1933; *The Man with the Magic Eardrums*, 1939).

• 4 •

1862 Eden Phillpotts, whose encouragement of the young Agatha Christie was a powerful impetus to her development, is born in Mount Aboo, India. Phillpotts wrote more than a hundred novels, among them several mysteries; his greatest contribution to the genre is the prestige he brought to the then-disdained craft of mystery writing.

1949 Noir master Nicholas Ray's first film, *They Live by Night*, is released. It is the first film version of Edward Anderson's *Thieves Like Us*, which is later remade by director Robert Altman.

• 5 •

1925 Sidney Reilly—the British espionage agent known as the Ace of Spies—is reportedly executed by the Soviets.

• 6 •

1951 The film version of *Detective Story*, directed by William Wyler from the hit Broadway play by Sidney Kingsley, premieres. Kirk Douglas stars as Jim McLeod, an amoral and sadistic New York cop. Dashiell Hammett is originally hired to write the screenplay, but later drops out of the project.

Cover from the second Martin Hewitt collection (1895). Hewitt began his detective career in a prosaic fashion—as a lawyer's clerk

•7•

•8•

1943 Edgar-winning critic and novelist Jon L. Breen is born in Montgomery, Alabama. Breen also satirizes the work of Christie, Queen, Van Dine, Carr, and others in a collection of parodies of the great detectives, *Hair of the Sleuthhound* (1982). His novels showcase his affection for old books and classic mystery plotting (*Touch of the Past*, 1988).

•9•

1955 *I Died a Thousand Times*, the second film version of W.R. Burnett's *High Sierra*—this time starring Jack Palance as Mad Dog Earle—is released.

1965 The great New York electrical blackout strikes. This occurrence becomes the basis for Stanton Forbes's thriller *Dead by the Light of the Moon*. (1967).

•10•

1893 John P. Marquand, creator of secret agent Mr. I.O Moto, is born in Wilmington, Delaware. This Oriental Op, a benevolent pre–World War II Japanese detective, fades away shortly after Pearl Harbor, but was extremely popular in a series of 1930s movies starring Peter Lorre (*Think Fast, Mr. Moto*, 1937 [both book and film]).

1932 Mervyn LeRoy's *I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang*, starring Paul Muni as a man forced by the Depression to take up a life of crime, is released.

•11•

Anna Katharine Green

1846 Anna Katharine Green, often erroneously considered to be the first female mystery author, is born in Brooklyn. Green's *The Leavenworth Case* (1878) appears eleven years after the lesser-known *Dead Letter* by Seeley Regester. Though the contemporary reader may find *The Leavenworth Case*, conventional and clichéd, at the time it featured innovative plotting and characters.

1914 Howard Fast is born in New York City. A mainstream novelist, Fast decides to use the pseudonym E.V. Cunningham for his mysteries after being blacklisted during the McCarthy era. He is best known for his novels featuring L.A. detective Masao Masuto, a Japanese Buddhist and martial arts expert who moves among California's rich and powerful investigating various crimes (*The Case of the Russian Diplomat*, 1978).

•12•

1939 Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, dramatized by the Mercury Players, is broadcast on CBS radio's *Campbell Playhouse*.

1947 Emmuska, Baroness Orczy—creator of the Scarlet Pimpernel, the Old Man in the Corner, and Lady Molly of Scotland Yard—dies at the age of eighty-two

• 13 •

1850 The author of some of the most popular young adult adventure stories in literature, including *Treasure Island* (1883) and *Kidnapped* (1886), plus classic tales of mystery fiction, Robert Louis Stevenson, is born in Edinburgh. His *The Wrong Box* (1889) is a black comic tale of a corpse that won't stay put. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1886) is one of the best known and most filmed crime stories ever. It is described as the only mystery in which the solution is more horrible than the crime.

1877 The first serious use of psychoanalytical deduction occurs in the work of Harvey J. O'Higgins, born on this date in London, Ontario, and author of the *Queen's Quorum* title *Detective Duff Unravels It* (1929).

1904 Vera Caspary, the author of *Laura* (1943), her first novel, is born in Chicago. Otto Preminger's 1944 film classic

Robert Louis Stevenson, whose 1882 collection *New Arabian Nights* contained classic tales of swashbuckling

Jacket from the first edition of Vera Caspary's classic romantic suspense novel *Laura* (1943). *Houghton Mifflin*

stars Dana Andrews, Gene Tierney, Clifton Webb, and Vincent Price.

• 14 •

1959 Perry Smith and Richard Hickock break into the home of wealthy Kansas farmer Herbert Clutter with intent to rob. The escapade results in the shotgun murder of the entire Clutter family. Smith and Hickock are tracked to Las Vegas, captured, convicted, executed, and immortalized by Truman Capote in *In Cold Blood* (1966).

• 15 •

1877 William Hope Hodgson is born in Blackmore End, Essex. Known for his macabre sea stories and the classic 1908 chiller *The House on the Borderland*, creator of psychic detective Carnacki, who investigates apparently supernatural cases—usually discovering a rational explanation (*Carnacki, The Ghost-Finder*, 1913).

• 16 •

1935 *The President's Mystery Story*, based on a plot idea by Franklin Delano Roosevelt and written by six popular mystery writers—including S.S. Van Dine—begins serialization in *Liberty* magazine.

• 17 •

1876 The creator of the only known backwoods detective, November Joe (*November Joe: The Detective of the Woods*, 1913), Hesketh Prichard, is born in India. In collaboration with his mother Prichard writes the adventures of the Spanish rogue Don Quebranta Huesos, or the bone smasher (*The Chronicles of Don Q*, 1904).

18 • 19

• 20 •

1900 Dick Tracy's creator, cartoonist Chester Gould, is born in Pawnee, Oklahoma. Tracy, after Holmes, the most famous detective in the world, first appeared in 1931; Gould figures that if real-life policemen couldn't put a stop to gangsters and bootleggers, he would create one who could. Gould's macabre sense of story and character leads to the birth of some of this century's most bizarre villains—including Pruneface, B.B. Eyes, Flattop, and Mumbles.

1926 Ian Fleming's successor, British espionage novelist John Gardner, is born in Seaton Delaval, Northumberland. Gardner's *The Garden of Weapons* (1980), a seminal Cold War spy novel, represents the more serious side of the author

Since 1981 and *License Renewed*, Gardner has displayed a fine sense of humor in continuing the adventures of Fleming's James Bond

•21•

•22•

1917 Suspense author John Cleary is born in Sydney, Australia. Cleary wins the 1974 Edgar for best novel for *Peter's Pence*, an exciting heist yarn set in the Vatican. In it the Pope is kidnapped by a group of IRA extremists and ransomed for fifteen million Deutsche marks

•23•

1887 Boris Karloff, christened William Henry Pratt, is born in Dulwich. Karloff, an ex-truckdriver, receives his first good reviews for his roles as criminals in such early talkie crime melodramas as *The Criminal Code* (1931), going on to become one of Hollywood's best-known actors with his brilliant 1931 portrayal of Frankenstein's Monster

1910 Infamous wife murderer Dr. H.H. Crippen is executed at Pentonville Prison in England.

•24•

1908 Harry Kemelman, whose detective hero Rabbi David Small is acclaimed as the best clerical sleuth since Father Brown, is born in Boston. Using the wisdom of the Talmud and an acute understanding of his New England congregation, Small assists police chief Hugh Lanigan in solving crimes that seem to happen on a daily basis (*Friday the Rabbi Slept Late*, 1964; *Tuesday the Rabbi Saw Red*, 1974)

1925 William F. Buckley, Jr., is born in New York City. Famed conservative commentator and editor of *The National Review*, Buckley also writes best-selling thrillers featuring Blackford Oakes, a Yale-educated CIA agent (*Saving the Queen*, 1976)

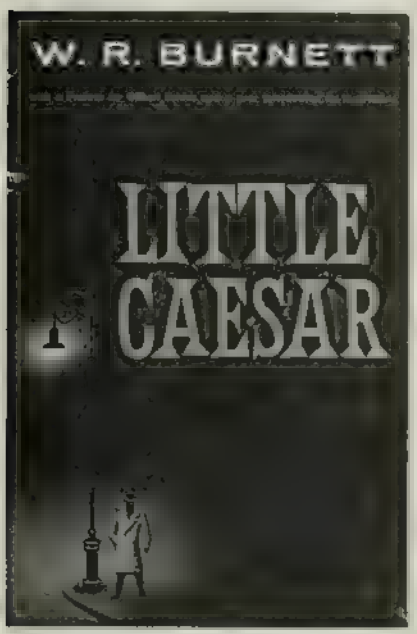
•25•

1899 The man who authored three of the most important crime novels of the century—*Little Caesar* (1929), *High Sierra* (1940), and *The Asphalt Jungle* (1949)—W.R Burnett, is born in Springfield, Ohio. Burnett focuses on a predominant symbol of his time: the gangster, and the film version of *Little Caesar* (1930) pioneers the gangster genre in the talking era—one of the most significant (and popular) in the history of Hollywood

1947 *Out of the Past*, the definitive existential noir film starring Robert Mitchum, Jane Greer, and Kirk Douglas, is released

1952 Agatha Christie's play *The Mousetrap* opens at the Ambassador Theatre, London, with Richard Attenborough

Harry Kemelman was encouraged early in his career when *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine* selected his first short story, "The Nine-Mile Walk" (1947), as one of the best of the year. *William Charles Studios*



Jacket from reprint of W.R. Burnett's seminal gangster novel *Little Caesar* (1929). *Dial Press*

in the role of Detective Sergeant Trotter. *The Mousetrap* enjoys the longest continuous run in modern theater. In 1990 its still at the Ambassador, and probably will be as long as people like mysteries

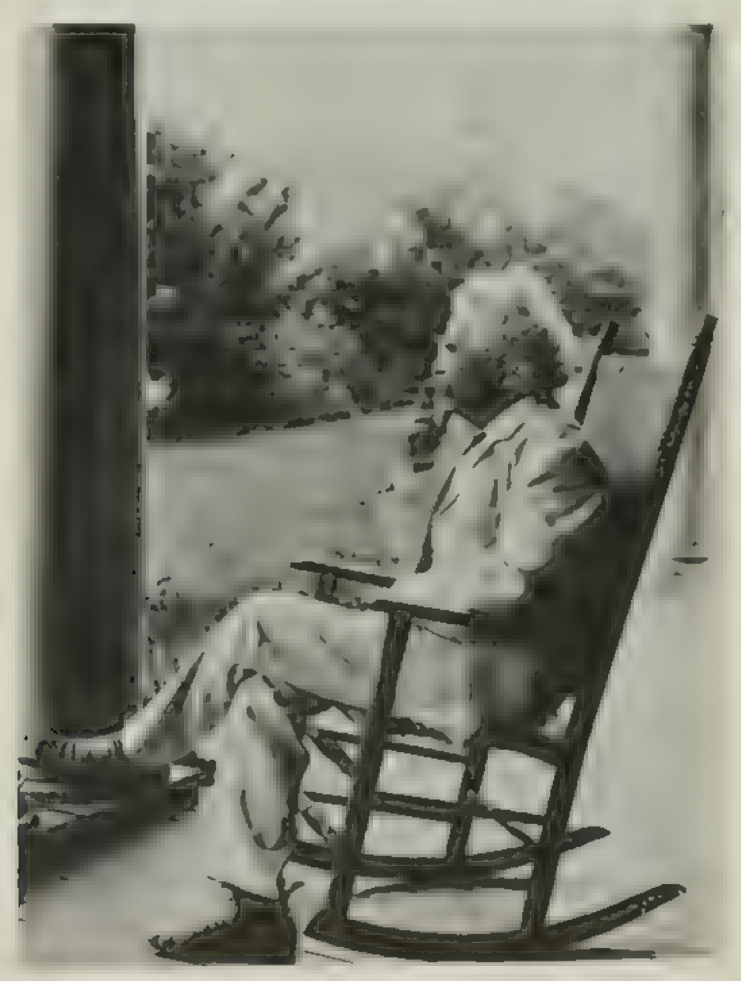
•26•

1905 Playwright Emlyn Williams is born in Rhewl Fawr, Wales. Williams's first play, *A Murder Has Been Arranged*, was staged in 1927; his most famous, *Night Must Fall*—the tale of a pleasant young man who carries a head in a hatbox—appears in 1935. Williams is also well known for his play (and later movie) *The Corn Is Green*. His 1967 nonfiction study of England's infamous Moors murders, *Beyond Belief*, is a huge best seller and an important work in the true-crime field

27•28•29

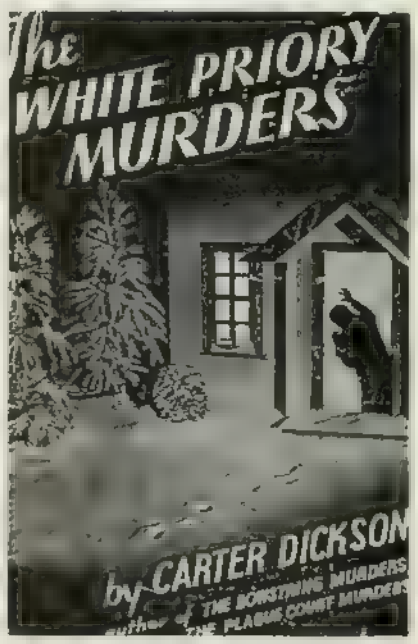
•30•

1835 Samuel Langhorne Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, is born in Florida, Missouri. Twain's first published story, "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County"



Mark Twain in a blatantly characteristic pose, with white suit, cigar, and a very early set of Beatle boots

The BURNING COURT
JOHN DICKSON CARR
THOR OF "THE MURDER OF SIR EDMUND GODFREY"
IT WALKS BY NIGHT" ETC.
HARPER & BROTHERS • ESTABLISHED 1817



1867), is an early story about a confidence game. His "The Stolen White Elephant" (1882) is a broad parody of the detective story as it was in the late nineteenth century. He parodies Sherlock Holmes in the novel *A Double Barrelled Detective Story* (1902).

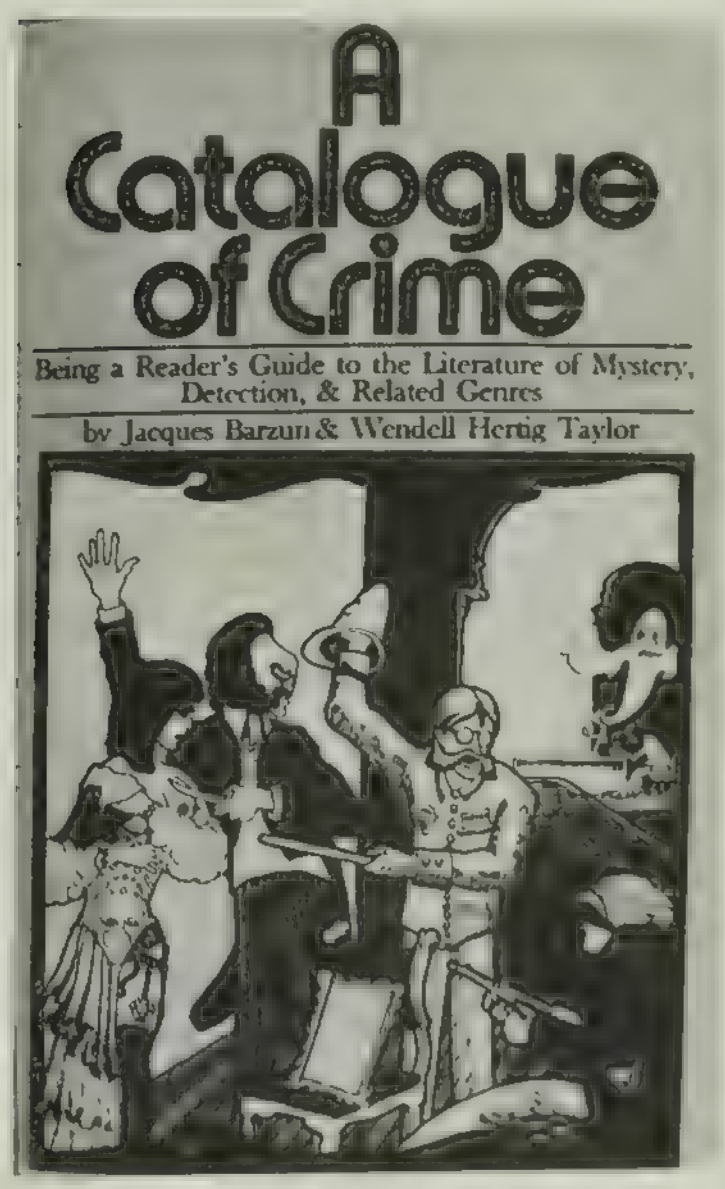
1900 Geoffrey Household, whose best-known novel is *Rogue Male* (1939), is born in Bristol. The story tells of an aristocratic Briton's attempt to assassinate the dictator of a Central European country. When asked why he wrote so obviously about Adolf Hitler, Household replies, "Something had to be done about the man, and I started thinking about how I would love to kill him."

1906 The best-known practitioner of the "locked-room" form of mystery and one of the best writers of the fair-play detective story, John Dickson Carr is born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Carr's so-called "impossible" crimes are the

Jacket of *The Burning Court* (1937), often cited as John Dickson Carr's finest nonseries novel (*top left*). Carr himself, the man to turn to for the best in fair play/foul play from the Golden Era of mystery—you got railroad timetables, crime-scene maps, and bizarre clues of every description (*top*). Jacket of the second Sir Henry Merrivale mystery (1934), with Carr writing as Carter Dickson (*above*). Above, William Morrow & Company

basis of such classics as *The Burning Court* (1937). His detective Dr. Gideon Fell (*The Blind Barber*, 1934) is said to have been inspired by G.K. Chesterton, one of Carr's heroes. When Carr was elected to the Detection Club in 1936, he hoped to meet Chesterton, then president of the organization, but unfortunately Chesterton died just before the initiation. Under the pseudonym Carter Dickson, Carr creates Sir Henry Merrivale, a vulgar, aristocratic sleuth who is called upon when Scotland Yard is baffled by the impossible crime and sure that the supernatural is to blame (*The Judas Window*, 1938).

1907 Jacques Barzun, whose 1971 *Catalogue of Crime*, written with Wendell Hertig Taylor, is the most comprehensive guide to the genre, is born in Paris. A Columbia University professor of history, Barzun is an important critic of art, music, and literature—predominantly of crime fiction

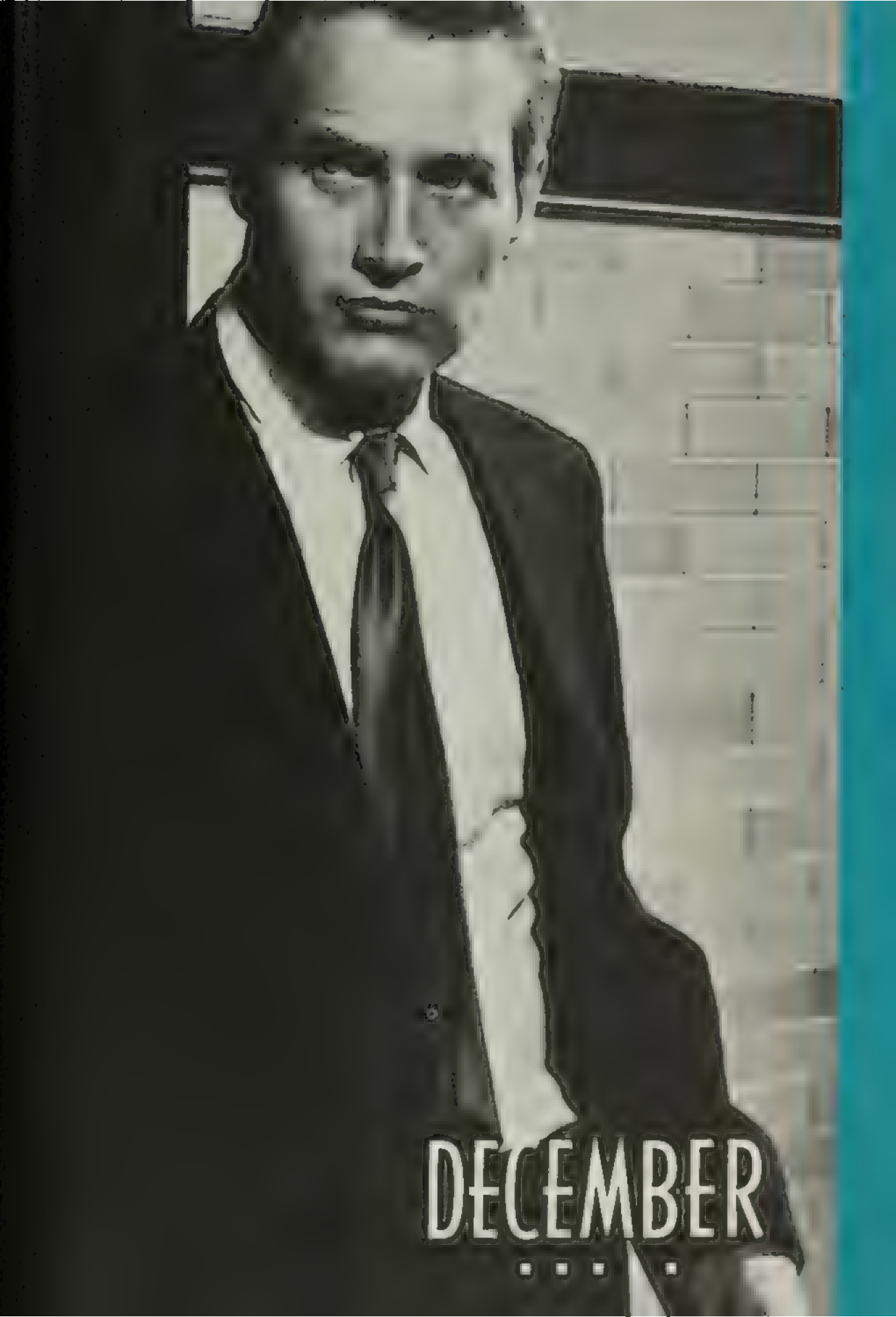

A
Catalogue
of Crime
Being a Reader's Guide to the Literature of Mystery, Detection, & Related Genres
by Jacques Barzun & Wendell Hertig Taylor

Yellow Submarine-influenced jacket art (*right*) from the first edition of the Jacques Barzun–Wendell H. Taylor *Catalogue of Crime* (1971), the earliest comprehensive guide to crime fiction. In 1989, a revised second edition was published; professor and critic Barzun (*above*). *Copyright © 1971 by Jacques Barzun and Wendell Hertig Taylor. Reprinted by permission of Harper & Row Publishers, Inc*

16

December 1: Paul Newman as Lew Archer, renamed Lew Harper, in *Harper*, the 1966 film version of Macdonald's novel *The Moving Target*.

© 1966 Warner Bros. Pictures Inc. *All rights reserved.*


DECEMBER

• 1 •

1886 Rex Stout, creator of Nero Wolfe, is born in Noblesville, Indiana. Stout enters the mystery world late in life, after his fortune is made—as the inventor of a school banking system! Wolfe, the finest long-running American series detective in the traditional mode, first appears in *Fer-de-Lance* (1934) and is an instant success. The eccentric, overweight, orchid-growing, beer-loving private investigator prefers never to leave his West Thirty-fifth Street brownstone. Rather, he sends his irascible legman Archie Goodwin out to collect information with which he will solve the murder mystery. Stout, always active in liberal causes, pits his gargantuan sleuth against J. Edgar Hoover's FBI in the best-known Wolfe novel, *The Doorbell Rang* (1965).

• 2 •

1895 Warren William is born in Aitkin, Minnesota. A second-rate B-movie actor, William portrays Sam Spade in *Satan Met a Lady* (1936)—the second film version of Hammett's *Maltese Falcon*, but he is best known for his long-running role as rogue-adventurer Michael Lanyard, "the Lone Wolf" (*The Lone Wolf Meets a Lady*, 1940).

1932 Earl Derr Biggers's Charlie Chan begins his radio career on the NBC Blue network.

• 3 •

1857 One of the most influential early twentieth-century novelists, Joseph Conrad is born in Berdichev, Poland. Conrad is the author of *The Secret Agent* (1907), possibly the first "serious" fiction to feature the moral dilemma of a double agent.

1926 Agatha Christie disappears from Styles, her country home in Sunningdale. For the next week British police search for the popular writer—who simply reappears at the Hydropathic Hotel in North Yorkshire after ten days. The true story behind Christie's disappearance remains a mystery to this day.

Joseph Conrad, in a 1921 photograph taken by Alfred A. Knopf. *Reprinted by permission*

• 4 •

1903 Reclusive genius Cornell Woolrich is born in New York City. Woolrich never achieves the success that his masterful suspense novels deserve. Under his own name and two pseudonyms—William Irish and George Hopley—the bitter, frustrated alcoholic Woolrich authors a quantity of short pulp fiction as well as novels that evoke a bleak, despairing world where men's lives are crushed by what Anthony Boucher called "the everyday gone wrong." Woolrich's best work appears in his series of "Black" novels, the best being *Rendezvous in Black* (1948) and *The Bride Wore Black* (1940).

Rex Stout pitching horseshoes in 1933, shortly before his creation of Nero Wolfe—who would no doubt have been alarmed to witness such a display of reckless athleticism

filmed by François Truffaut in 1968. His 1942 novella *Rear Window* is the source of Alfred Hitchcock's classic 1954 film

• 5 •

1890 Master filmmaker Fritz Lang is born in Vienna. Lang's film-directing career begins in the halcyon days of German expressionism; its influence is seen in his marvelous series of movies about Dr. Mabuse, a Moriarty-type criminal mastermind. Lang's first sound film, *M* (1931), introduces Peter Lorre in the role of a psychotic child murderer. Five years later, having fled Nazi Germany, Lang begins a career in Hollywood. Among his classic American work is *Ministry of Fear* (1944) and *The Big Heat* (1953), one of the great hard-boiled films

• 6 •

1927 Popular pulp writer of the 1940s and 1950s William P. McGivern is born in Chicago. McGivern's best novel is the 1952 *The Big Heat*, the story of a cop who turns to unlawful

methods to avenge the death of his wife at the hands of gangsters.

• 7 •

1982 At Huntsville prison in Texas, Charlie Brooks—murderer of a used-car salesman—is the first prisoner to be executed by a lethal injection of a combination of sodium pentothal, Pavulon, and potassium chloride.

• 8 •

1897 Physician and writer Doris Bell Collier Ball is born in Manchester, Lancashire. Following the death of her husband in 1936, she began writing medical mysteries under the pseudonym of Josephine Bell. Among her best known works are *Death at the Medical Board* (1944) and *Curtain Call for a Corpse* (1965).

1963 Nineteen-year-old Frank Sinatra, Jr., is kidnapped. Frank Sinatra, Sr., pays the $240,000 ransom; the three kidnappers are captured and jailed.

• 9 •

• 10 •

1804 Marie Joseph Sue, who writes as Eugène Sue, is born in Paris. During the 1840s, Sue writes his four-volume work *Les Mystères de Paris*, the detective hero of which, Prince Rodolphe of Gerolstein, shows early socialist tendencies while investigating crime in both the Parisian underground and the demimonde.

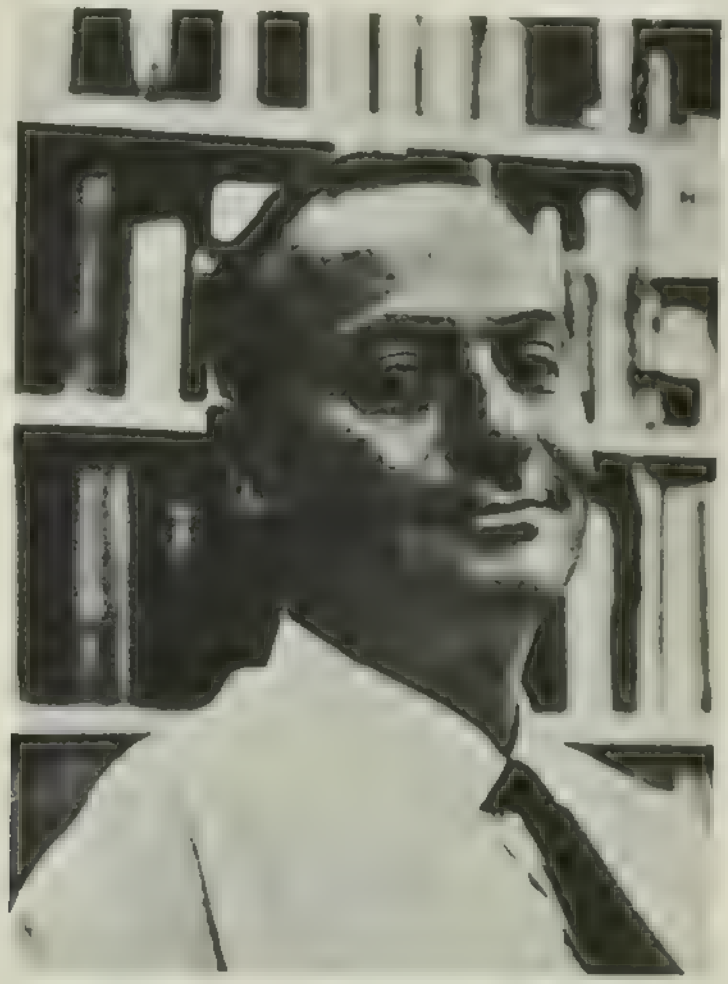
• 11 •

1864 Maurice Leblanc, creator of the extraordinarily popular cracksman Arsène Lupin, the "Prince of Thieves," is born in Rouen, France. The archetypal gentleman burglar often finds himself matching wits with the inept detective-parody Holmlock Shears in a series of short story collections (*The Exploits of Arsène Lupin*, 1907), novels, and plays.

1980 *Magnum, P.I.* begins its long run on CBS television. The beautiful scenery of Hawaii is a secondary draw for this show, being eclipsed by the hunky presence of Tom Selleck.

• 12 •

1893 Edward G. Robinson is born in Bucharest. Known for his brilliant portrayals of cops and criminals, among other characters, Robinson becomes famous as the star of the first great gangster film to use sound, *Little Caesar* (1930). His classic closing line: "Mother of mercy, is this the end of Rico?"



Author Ross Macdonald, Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Michigan, beloved of highbrow literary critics

• 13 •

1915 Kenneth Millar, creator of Lew Archer, the first innovation in the private-eye hero since Chandler created Marlowe, is born in Los Gatos, California. In 1941, after his wife, Margaret, publishes her first mystery novel, Millar becomes interested in writing as well, publishing four novels under his own name. Realizing that his books could be confused with those of his wife, Millar adopts the pseudonym John Ross Macdonald. Now, however, he is being confused with another up-and-coming writer: John D. MacDonald. Throwing up his hands, Millar makes his final name change—to Ross Macdonald. His fifth novel, *The Moving Target* (1949), introduces Archer, the most enduring detective character of the 1950s and 1960s. Millar's concerns about the social issues of the times are reflected in Archer's cases. The most common theme in the novels is the generation gap. The Archer novels of the 1960s (*The Chill*, 1964) represent the most accurate depiction of California's social turmoil of that period. By 1969 Macdonald's work begins to be considered "serious American literature."

•14•

1919 Shirley Jackson, who wrote the best-known short story in the history of *The New Yorker* magazine—"The Lottery" (1947)—is born in San Francisco. A tale of paranoia and mob psychology in a small New England town, the story is unfailing in its ability to chill. Her novel *The Haunting of Hill House* (1959) is one of the great modern gothics.

•15•

1947 Arthur Machen, who combined the detective story with the horror novel in *The Terror* (1917), dies.

•16•

1927 Peter Dickinson, winner of an unprecedented two consecutive Gold Dagger awards from the British Crime Writers' Association, is born in Livingstone, Zambia. An editor at *Punch*, the British humor magazine, Dickinson writes his first detective novel, *The Glass-sided Ants' Nest* (1968), which introduces Inspector James Pibble and wins the author that year's Gold Dagger. Dickinson's second book, *The Old English Peep Show*, receives another Gold Dagger in 1969. His bizarre erudition makes reading a Dickinson mystery a unique experience: *The Poison Oracle* (1974) is possibly the only whodunit featuring a literate chimpanzee as a witness to murder

Shirley Jackson. *Erich Hartmann*

The coat of arms Lord Peter Wimsey: Sable, 3 mice courant, argent; crest, a domestic cat crouched as to spring, proper; motto: As my Wimsey takes me. © *1972 by H & R Publ., Inc. Reprinted by permission of Harper-Collins Publishers*

•17•

1907 One of the great traditional mystery writers, Mary Christianna Lewis, is born in Malaya. Lewis uses the pseudonym Christianna Brand during her long career. A master of fair play in cluing, Brand's novels evoke the British social milieu of the 1950s (*Cat and Mouse*, 1950).

1957 Dorothy L. Sayers, who created her own dream lover in aristocratic detective Lord Peter Wimsey (and then re-created herself as Harriet Vane and staged a wedding in *Busman's Honeymoon*, 1937) dies at age sixty-four

•18•

1911 American actor and film director Jules Dassin is born in Middletown, Connecticut. Dassin adapts Eric Ambler's classic caper novel *The Light of Day* (1962) into the great "swinging sixties" thriller *Topkapi* (1964), starring Peter Ustinov.

1931 After numerous attempts on his life, the extraordinarily popular gangster "Legs" Diamond is finally killed in an Albany, New York, boardinghouse

•19•

•20•

1918 Joseph Payne Brennan is born in Bridgeport, Connecticut. A librarian at Yale University, Brennan creates Lucius Leffing, a private detective and psychic investigator (*The Casebook of Lucius Leffing* 1973) who displays a yearning for the Victorian era and quaffs a great deal of sarsaparilla in his adventures.

1942 *Mr. and Mrs. North* premieres on the NBC radio network. Within a year it becomes one of the most popular thrillers on the air.

•21•

1903 One of the originators of the police procedural form, Lawrence Treat is born in New York City. Treat creates many of the investigatory patterns later perfected in Ed McBain's 87th Precinct novels and John Creasey's Gideon stories. A prolific short story writer, Treat also publishes a series of "solve-them-yourself" picture mysteries, including *Crime and Puzzlement* (1981)

•22•

1907 Doris Miles Disney, a writer who translates experiences into characters and mysteries, is born in Glastonbury, Connecticut. After her husband's death in World War II, Disney begins writing her popular mystery novels. Using her experience in the Hartford insurance business, she creates

Jefferson DiMarco, a claims adjuster who frequently encounters murder (*Straw Man*, 1951).

•23•

1971 Clint Eastwood's first film appearance as Dirty Harry Callahan is released by Warner Bros. Frank Sinatra originally plans to play the unethical, violent San Francisco cop, but withdraws from the project because of a hand injury.

•24•

•25•

1899 Humphrey Bogart is born in New York City. A character actor who plays gangster lackeys and losers throughout the 1930s, Bogart wins worldwide fame as Sam Spade, one of the greatest Hollywood icons, in John Huston's 1941 movie *The Maltese Falcon*. One of Bogart's little-known achievements is the founding of the Rat Pack—later co-opted by Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis, et al.

1931 Joe Gores, the only author to win two Edgars in one year—for his short story "Goodbye, Pops" and his first novel *A Time of Predators* in 1969—is born in Rochester, Minnesota. A private investigator in San Francisco, Gores uses his intimate knowledge of the business in his ultrarealistic DKA File novels, including *Dead Skip* (1972). An extremely successful writer for television and the movies, Gores's best-known novel, *Hammett* (1975), is a fictional account of Dashiell Hammett's investigation of a friend's murder.

•26•

1917 An author not satisfied to write simple whodunits, Patricia McGerr is born in Falls City, Nebraska. McGerr's career is based on her talent for developing entirely new puzzles in mysteries. Her first, *Pick Your Victim* (1946), is the tale of a group of marines in a far-flung outpost who find a torn piece of newspaper that names a confessed murderer in Washington, D.C.; the rest of the novel shows their efforts to deduce *who was murdered*.

27•28•29

•30•

1922 Jane Langton, whose novels feature the rangy, eccentric New England sleuth Homer Kelly and are usually set in or around the halls of academe, is born in Boston. The first, *Transcendental Murder* (1964), involves the killing of amateur experts on the nineteenth-century literary movement. A talented artist, Langton takes the unusual course of illustrating her own novels.

1952 The Mutual radio series *The Black Museum* ends. Host Orson Welles introduces every drama with a walk through Scotland Yard's Black Museum, pausing at some seemingly ordinary object (a straight razor, an old trunk) and telling the tale of its connection with a celebrated murder case.

• 31 •

1916 Helen Eustis, best known as the Edgar-winning author of *The Horizontal Man* (1946), is born in Cincinnati, Ohio. This first novel is set at an Eastern girls' school where several students take up the search for the murderer of a handsome young English professor.

1927 Tod Browning's *London After Midnight* is released. Seemingly a horror film about a house haunted by vampires—superbly played by Lon Chaney and Marceline Day—the denouement reveals the spectral happenings to be a plot by a Scotland Yard detective (also played by Chaney) to coerce a confession of murder from a jittery killer.

1952 The radio series *I Love a Mystery* ends its run.

Greetings from Gahan Wilson. *Reprinted by permission of Gahan Wilson*

INDEX

Boldface entries indicate illustrations.

Aarons, Edward S., 6/16
Abbot, Anthony, 5/24
Abdullah, Achmed, 5/12
Abner, Uncle, **4/19**
Achievements of Luther Trant, The (Balmer and MacHarg), 7/26, 9/18
Addressing of Diamond (Freeling), 3/3
Adventures of Nero Wolfe, The (radio series), 7/5
Adventures of Philip Marlowe, The (radio series), 9/26
Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, The (film), 9/1
Adventures of the Thin Man, The (radio series), 7/2
African Millionaire, An (Allen), 2/24
A Gentleman's Gentleman (Pemberton), 6/19
Albeury, Ted, 2/18
Alcatraz Prison revolt (1946), 5/2
Aldrich, Robert, 5/18
Alexander, David, 3/21
Alfred Hitchcock Presents (television series), 8/13, 10/2
Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine, 8/13
Algiers (film), 5/17
Alias Jimmy Valentine (Henry), 9/11
Allbeury, Ted, 2/24, **10/24**
Allen, Gracie, 7/26
Allen, Grant, 2/24
Alleyn, Roderick, 4/23
Allingham, Margery, 5/20
Alphaville (film), 2/22
Altman, Robert, 11/4
Alvarez Journal, The (Burns), 6/13
Ambler, Eric, 6/28, 12/18
Amis, Kingsley, 4/16
Anastasia, Albert (the Executioner), 10/25
Anderson, Edward, 11/4
And Then There Were None (Christie), 9/15
And Then There Were None (film), 6/27
Angel Street (Hamilton), 3/17
Antony, Peter, 5/15
Appleby, John, 9/30
Arbuckle, Roscoe (Fatty), 9/5
Archer, Lew, **December opening**, 12/13
Ark, Simon, 2/22
Arkham House, 2/24
Armchair Detective, The (journal), 3/5
Armchair Detective, The (television show), 7/6
Armstrong, Charlotte, 5/2
Arsenic and Old Lace (film), 3/23
Asch, Jacob, 1/5
Ashenden, or the British Agent (Maugham), 1/25
Asimov, Isaac, 1/2
Asphalt Jungle, The (film), 6/8
Attenborough, Richard, 11/25
Auden, W. H , 3/26
Audley, David, 8/16
Avengers, The (television series), 7/20
Axeman of New Orleans, 3/13

Bacall, Lauren, **July opening**, 8/31
Bailey, F. Lee, 6/30
Bailey, H. C., 2/1
Ball, Doris Bell Collier. *See* Bell, Josephine
Ball, John, 2/20, 7/8
Balmer, Edwin, 7/26, 9/18
Bancroft, George, 8/22
Bank Shot (Westlake), 7/12
Barbary Coast (San Francisco), 9/30
Baretta (television series), 6/1
Barney Blake, Police Reporter (television series), 4/22
Barney Miller (television series), 1/23
Barrow, Clyde, 5/23
Barrymore, John, 5/7
Barzun, Jacques, 6/15, **11/30**
Bastille, the, 7/14
Batman, 5/1
Baxt, George, 6/11
Beadle, Erastus, 9/11
Beadle, Irwin, 9/11
Beadle's Dime Novels, 9/11
Beasts of Valhalla (Chesbro), 6/4
Beat Generation, The (film), 10/22
Beaurieux, Dr., 6/25
Beck, Martin, 8/5, 10/1
Beeding, Francis, 1/14
Beef, Sgt. William, 6/20
Before the Fact (Iles), 7/5
Bell, Josephine, 12/8
Bellamy, Ralph, 6/17
Benighted (Priestley), 9/13
Bentley, E. C., 3/30, 7/10
Berkeley, Anthony, 7/5
Berkowitz, David ("Son of Sam"), 7/31
Bernardi, Herschel, 9/22
Bertillon, Alphonse, 2/13
Bertillon identification system 2/13
Beyond Belief (Williams), 11/26
Bierce, Ambrose, 6/24

Big Bow Mystery, The (Zangwill), 1/21
Big Clock, The (Fearing), 7/28
Big Clock, The (film), 4/9, 7/28, 10/23
Biggers, Earl Derr, 5/20, 8/26, 12/2
Big Heat, The (film), 12/5
Big Heat, The (McGivern), 12/6
Big Sleep, The (Chandler), 2/6
Big Sleep, The (film), July opening, 7/23, 8/31
Billion Dollar Brain, The (film), 3/14
Billion Dollar Sure Thing, The (Erdman), 5/19
Birdman of Alcatraz (Robert Stroud), 3/26
Blackboard Jungle, The (Hunter), 10/14
Black Dahlia, 1/15
Black Dahlia, The (Ellroy), 3/4
Black Mask (magazine), 4/14
Black Museum, The (radio series), 12/30
Blackshirt, 10/21
Blackwood, Algernon, 3/14
Blaise, Modesty, 4/11
Blake, Nicholas. *See* Day-Lewis, C
Blake, Robert, 6/1
Bleak House (Dickens), 2/7
Bleeck, Oliver. *See* Thomas, Ross
Bloch, Robert, 4/5
Block, Lawrence, 6/24
Blood on the Moon (Ellroy), 3/4
Bloody Murder (Symons), 5/30
"Blue Cross, The" (Chesterton), 5/25
Blue Dahlia, The (film), 5/8
Bodkin, M McDonnell, 10/8
Body Snatcher, The (Finney), 12
Bogart, Humphrey, 1/4, 1/14, 3/2, 5/17, July opening 5/31, 10/3, 12/25
Bonaparte, Napoleon "Bony," 9/1
Bond, James, 5/28, 5/29
Boomerang (Abbott), 5/24
Boomtown Rats, 1/29
Boorman, John, 7/12, 9/18
Boothby, Guy, 10/13
Borden, Lizzie, 6/20
Born in a Bookshop (Starrett), 10/26
Boston Blackie, 2/16
Boucher, Anthony, 4/11, 4/30, 8/21
Bowen-Judd, Sara (aka Sara Woods), 3/7
Box, Edgar, 10/3
Boyle, Jack, 2/16
Bradbury, Ray, 8/22
Bradley, Dame Beatrice, 4/19
Brady, James, 6/7
Bramah, Ernest, 3/20
Brand, Christianna, 10/9, 12/17
Brandstetter, Dave, 7/19
Brasher Doubloon, The (film), 2/6
Breen, Jon L., 11/8
Brennan, Joseph Payne, 12/20
Brent, Evelyn, 8/22
Brett, Simon, 10/28
Briarpatch (Thomas), 2/19
Bride Wore Black, The (film), 12/4
Bride Wore Black, The (Woolrich), 12/4
Briggs, Donald, 10/18
Brighton Rock (Greene), 10/2
Brink's armored car robbery (1950), 1/17
Broadway Times, The (Alexander), 3/21
Brook, Clive, 6/1, 8/22
Brooks, Charlie, 12/7
Brown, Carter, 8/1
Brown, Charles Brockton, 1/17
Brown, Father, 4/2, 5/28, 6/10
Brown, Fredric, 10/29
Browne, Howard. *See* Evans, John
Browning, Tod, 12/30
Bruce, Leo, 6/20
Bryson, John, 8/17
Buchan, John, 8/26
Buckley, William F., Jr., 11/24
Build My Gallows High (Homes), 7/12
Bulldog Drummond, 9/28
Bulldog Drummond (film), 5/2, 9/28
Bullitt (film), 8/21
Burgess, Gelett, 1/30
Burglar (film), 6/24
Burlane, James, 1/28
Burnett, W. R., 6/8, 11/9, 11/25
Burns, Rex, 6/13
Burr, Raymond, 5/21, 5/22, 9/21
Busman's Honeymoon (Sayers), 7/13, 12/17

Cabin B-13 (radio series), 3/16
Cadfael, Brother, 9/28
Caesar, Julius, 3/15
Cagney, James, 4/14, 8/4, 9/2
Cain, James M., 5/2, 7/1, 7/16, 9/7, 9/28
Cain, Paul, 5/30
Caine, Michael, 2/18, 3/14
Cairo, Joel, 3/23
Callahan, Dirty Harry, 12/23
Campion, Albert, 5/20
Camus, Albert, 7/1
Canary Murder Case, The (film), 3/10
Canning, Victor, 6/16
Capone, Al, 2/14
Capote, Truman, 11/14
Carne, Simon, 10/13
Carr, John Dickson, 2/27, 3/16, 11/30
Carrados, Max, 3/20
Carter, Nick, 2/10
Carver, Fred, 9/11
Casebook of Lucius Leffing, The (Brennan), 12/20
Case for Three Detectives (Bruce), 6/20
Case of Need, A (Hudson), 10/23
Case of the Velvet Claws, The (Gardner), 7/17
Casino Murder Case, The (film), 5/26
Casino Royale (Fleming), 5/28
Cask, The (Crofts), 4/11
Caspary, Vera, 11/13
Castang, Henri, 3/3
Catalogue of Crime, A (Barzun and Taylor), 6/15, 11/30
Cat and the Canary, The (film), 9/9
Caution, Lemmy, 2/22
CBS Radio Mystery Theatre, The, 1/6
"Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County, The" (Twain), 11/30

Cermak, Anton J., 2/15
Chamberlain, Azaria, 8/17
Chamberlain, Lindy, 8/17
Chan, Charlie, 1/1, 4/28, 5/20, **August opening**, 8/26, 12/2
Chandler, Raymond, 1/23, **3/26**, 5/8, 7/23, 8/20, 8/31, 9/7
Chandos, Richard, 8/7
Chaney, Lon, 9/6, 12/30
Chapin, Charles, 9/16
Chaplin, Charlie, 2/25
Charles, Nick, 5/27, **7/29**
Charles, Nora, 5/27, **7/29**
Charlie's Angels (television series), 8/19
Charlie Chan (radio series), 12/2
Charlie Chan at Monte Carlo (film), **August opening**, 8/26
Charlie Chan in Reno (film), 5/31
Charteris, Leslie, 5/12
Chee, Sgt Jim, 5/27
Cheney, Peter, 2/22
Chesbro, George C., 6/4
Chesterton, G. K., 2/7, 5/28, 6/10, **6/14**, 11/30
Chick Carter, Boy Detective (radio series), 7/5
Chill, The (Macdonald), 12/13
Chinatown (film), 6/21
Chinese Parrot, The (film), 1/1
Christie, Agatha, **1/12**, 2/22, 6/27, **9/15**, 10/28, 11/4, 11/12, 11/25, 12/3
Clair, René, 6/27
Clancy, Peter, 4/5
Clark, Alfred Alexander Gordon. *See* Hare, Cyril
Clay, Colonel, 2/24
Clean Break (White), 5/20
Cleary, John, 11/22
Clemens, Samuel Langhorne *See* Twain, Mark
Clement Lorimer (Reach), 1/24
Clinton-Baddeley, V. C., 8/6
Clues of the Caribbees (Stribling), **3/4**
Clutter, Herbert, 11/14
Cobb, Irvin S., 6/23
Cockrill, Inspector, 10/9
Cohan, George M., 5/6
Cold War Swap, The (Thomas), 2/19
Collier, John, 5/3
Collins, Max Allan, **3/3**
Collins, Wilkie, 1/8
Colonel Sun (Markham), 4/16
Colt, Thatcher, 5/24
Columbo (television series), 9/15
Condon, Richard, 3/18, 7/24, 10/24
Confess, Fletch (Mcdonald), 2/15
Connell, Richard, 10/17
Connery, Sean, 5/29, 8/25
Connolly, Walter, 5/20
Conrad, Joseph, **12/3**
Continental Op, 5/27
Conway, Tom, 7/3
Cool, Bertha, 7/17
Cornhill Magazine, 2/28
Cornwell, David John Moore *See* Le Carré, John
Cosby, Bill, 9/2, 10/4
Cox, Anthony Berkeley, 7/5
Coxe, George Harmon, 7/7
Crater, Joseph, 8/6
Crawford, Joan, 9/28
Creasey, John, 2/4, 9/17
Crichton, Michael, 10/23
Crime and Punishment (Dostoevsky), 2/9
Crime and Puzzlement (Treat), 12/21
Crime at Black Dudley, The (Allingham), 5/20
Crime Doctor, 5/6
Crime Doctor, The (Hornung), 6/7
"Crime Dossiers" series, 1/8
Crime Fiction 1749-1980: A Comprehensive Bibliography (Hubin), 3/5
Crime on My Hands (Sanders), 6/5
Crippen, H. H., 7/23, 11/23
Criss Cross (film), 1/12
Croft-Cooke, Rupert. *See* Bruce, Leo
Crofts, Freeman Wills, 4/11
Crosby, Bing, 9/15
Cross, Amanda, 1/13
Crowther, Bosley, 5/4
Crumley, James, 10/12
Cry in the Dark, A (film), 6/17
Cukor, George, 3/17
Culp, Robert, 9/2
Cunningham, E. V., 11/11
Curtain (Christie), 1/12
Curtis, Ursula, 1/11, 4/8

Dahl, Roald, 9/13
Dale, Jimmie, 2/2
Dalgliesh, Adam, 8/3
Daly, Carroll John, 1/16, 5/27, 9/14
Daly, John C., 4/24
Dalziel, Andrew, 4/3
Damon, Les, 7/2
Dance Hall of the Dead (Hillerman), 5/27
Dannay, Frederic, [illegible] 10/20
Dark-Adapted Eye, A (Vine), 2/17
Dark Passage (Goodis), 3/2
Dash, Speed, 3/11
Da Silva, José, 8/21
Dassin, Jules, 12/15
Davie, R. V., 8/6
Da Vinci, Leonardo, 8/21
Davis, Richard Harding, 4/18
Day, Doris, 5/16
Day, Marceline, 12/30
Day-Lewis, C., 4/27
Dead by the Light of the Moon (Forbes), 11/9
Dead Letter, The (Regester), 3/2
DeAndrea, William L., 1/1
Death Is a Lonely Business Bradbury), 8/22
Deathtrap (Levin), 8/27
Dee, Judge, 8/9
Dee Goong An (van Gulik), 8/9
Deene, Carolus, 6/20
Deighton, Len, 2/18, 3/14, 10/24
De la Torre, Lillian, 3/15
Del Ruth, Roy, 8/15
Deming, Richard, 4[illegible]
Dene, Dorcas, 9/2
Denmark, 4/18
Denson, John, 1/28
Dent, Lester *See* Robeson, Kenneth
DePalma, Brian, 8/2
Derleth, August, 2/24
Der Mann, der seinen Mörder sucht (film), 4/30
DeSalvo, Albert, 6/30
Desperate Hours, The (Hayes 8/2
Detective, The (film), 4/2
Detective Comics, 5/1

Detective Story (film), 11/6
Detective Story (magazine), 10/5
Dew, Walter, 7/23
Dewey, Thomas B., 3/6
Dewey, Thomas E., 3/15
Dey, Frederic Van Rensselaer, 2/10
Dial M for Murder (film), 5/28
Dial M for Murder (Knott), 3/23
Diamond, "Legs," 12/18
Dickens, Charles, 2/7, 5/30, 6/9
Dickinson, Peter, 12/16
Dickson, Carter, 11/30
"Dick Tracy" (comic strip), 3/3, 6/4, 10/4
Dick Tracy (radio series), 9/30
DiMarco, Jefferson, 12/22
Dirty Harry Callahan, 12/23
Disney, Doris Miles, 12/22
D.O.A. (film), 4/30
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (adapted by J. Comyns Carr), 1/29
Dr. Nikola, 10/13
Dr. No (film), 5/29
Dr. Sam Johnson: Detector (de la Torre), 3/15
Dollar, John, 6/7
Donat, Robert, 8/26
Don't Bother to Knock (Armstrong), 5/2
Don't Look Now (film), 5/13
Doorbell Rang, The (Stout), 12/1
Dorcas Dene, Detective (Sims), 9/2
Dorothy Parker Murder Case, The (Baxt), 6/11
Dortmunder, John, 7/12
Dostoevsky, Fyodor Mikhailovich, 2/9
Double Barrelled Detective Story, A (Twain), 11/30
Double Indemnity (film), 7/16, 9/7
Douglas, Kirk, 11/6
Dowd, Tim, 7/31
Down There (Goodis), 3/2
Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan, 1/6, 2/28, 5/22. *See also* Holmes, Sherlock
Dracula (film, 1931), 4/22
Dragnet (radio series), 7/7
Dragnet (television series), 1/3, 4/2
Dram of Poison, A (Armstrong), 5/2
Dream Detective, The (Rohmer), 6/1
Drebin, Frank, 3/4
Drummond, Bulldog, 3/20, July opening, 9/28, 11/1
Du Maurier, Daphne, 5/13
Dunne, John Gregory, 5/25
Dupin, C. Auguste, 1/19, 4/25, 5/4
Durell, Sam, 6/16

Earle, Mad Dog, 1/4
Early Graves (Hansen), 7/19
Eastwood, Clint, 12/23
Eberhart, Mignon G., 7/6
Eco, Umberto, 8/25
Eiger Sanction, The (film), 1/12
Eiger Sanction, The (Trevanian), 1/12
Eighth Circle, The (Ellin), 10/6
Einstein, Dr., 3/23
Eliot, T. S., 1/8
Ellery Queen (radio series), 6/18
Ellery Queen, Master Detective (film), 6/17
Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, 2/22, 8/15, 10/20
Ellery Queen's Penthouse Mystery (film), 6/17
Ellin, Stanley, 10/6
Ellroy, James, 3/4
Emmuska, Baroness Orczy, 9/23, 11/12
Erdman, Paul E., 5/19
Eustis, Helen, 12/31
Evans, Homer, 2/11
Evans, John, 4/15
Evelyn, John Michael. *See* Underwood, Michael
Evil Angels (Bryson), 8/17

Fabulous Clipjoint, The (Brown), 10/29
Fair, A.A., 7/17
Fairlie, Gerard, 11/1
Faith, Hope, and Charity (Cobb), 6/23
Falk, Peter, 9/15
Family Plot (film), 6/16
Fancies and Goodnights (Collier), 5/3
Fansler, Kate, 1/13
Farewell, My Lovely (film), 8/20
Fast, Howard, 11/11
Fast Company (Page), 1/5
Fast One (Cain), 5/30
Father Brown (radio series), 6/10
Fat Man, The (radio series), 1/21
Faulkner, William, 9/25
Faust, Frederick, 5/29
Fearing, Kenneth, 4/9, 7/28
Fell, Gideon, 11/30
Fer-de-Lance (Stout), 12/1
"Final Problem, The" (Doyle), 5/4
Fingerprinting, 4/18
Finney, Jack, 7/12
Fish, Albert (the Cannibal), 1/16
Fish, Robert L., 8/21
Fisher, Steve, 1/16
Fitzgerald, F. Scott, 9/24
Flambeau, 5/28
Flashgun Casey (radio series), 7/7
Fleming, Ian, 5/28, 11/20
Fleming, Joan, 3/27
Fletch (Mcdonald), 2/15
Fletcher, Irwin Maurice Fletch), 2/15
Fletcher, J. S., 1/31
Fletcher, Lucille, 3/28, 9/1
"Flying Stars, The" (Chesterton), 5/28
Flynn, Francis Xavier, 2/15
Forbes, Stanton, 11/9
Fortune, Reggie, 2/1
Francis, Dick, 10/31
Frankenheimer, John, 10/24
Frankenstein: or, the Modern Prometheus (Shelley), 8/30
Franks, Bobbie, 5/21
Fraser, Lady Antonia, 8/27
Frederickson, Dr. Robert, 6/4
Freeling, Nicolas, 3/3
Freeman, R. Austin, 4/11
Freemantle, Brian, 6/10
French, Joseph, 4/11
French Connection, The (film), 10/7
Frenzy (film), 5/15
Friedkin, William, 10/7
Friedman, Kinky, 10/31
From Russia, with Love (Fleming), 5/28

Fugitive, The (Fish), 8/21
Fugitive, The (television series), 8/29
Fuller, Samuel, 6/17
Fu Manchu, 2/15, 4/24, 7/21
Fu Manchu (radio series), 9/25
Funeral in Berlin (film), 3/14
Futrelle, Jacques, 4/15

Gabin, Jean, **February opening**, 5/17
Gaboriau, Émile, 9/28
Garden of Weapons, The (Gardner), 11/20
Gardner, Erle Stanley, 3/11, 4/19, 5/21, 7/17, 10/18. *See also* Fair, A. A
Gardner, John, 11/20
Gargan, William, 8/7
Garner, James, 9/13
Garth, Will, 4/7
Gaslight (film), 3/17
Ghote, Ganesh, 10/31
Gifford, Thomas, 5/16
Gilbert, Michael, 7/17
Gill, Bartholomew, 7/22
Gillette, William, 10/20
Gillingham, Antony (Madman), 1/18
Glass Key, The (film, 1942), 10/23
Glass-sided Ants' Nest, The (Dickinson), 12/16
Godard, Jean-Luc, 2/22
Godwin, William, 3/3
Good Behavior (Westlake), 7/12
Goodis, David, 3/2
Goodwin, Archie, 12/1
Gordon, Gordon, 3/12
Gordon, Mildred, 3/12
Gores, Joe, 12/25
Gould, Chester, 10/4, 11/20
Gracie Allen Murder Case, The (film), 7/26
Graeme, Bruce, 10/21
Graham, Winston, 6/30
Grant, Cary, 7/5
Grant, Patrick, 1/30
Gray, Henry Judd, 1/13, 3/19
Gray, Michael, 4/7
Great Impersonation, The (Oppenheim), 10/22
Great Merlini, 8/15
Great Train Robbery, The (Crichton), 10/23
Green, Anna Katharine, 3/2, 11/11
Greene, Graham, 5/13, 10/2
Green for Danger (film), 10/9
Green Tea (Le Fanu), 8/28
"Green Thoughts" (Collier), 5/3
Greenwood, John, 6/8
Grey Flannel Shroud, The (Slesar), 6/12
Gruber, Frank, 2/2
G-String Murders, The (Lee), 6/5
Guinness, Sir Alec, 4/2
Gun in Cheek (Pronzini), 4/13

Hackman, Gene, 10/7
Hair of the Sleuthhound (Breen), 11/8
Hall, Satan, 1/16
Halliday, Brett, 6/6, 10/16
Halo in Blood (Evans), 4/15
Hamilton, Donald, 3/24, 6/17
Hamilton, Patrick, 3/17
Hamlet, Revenge (Innes), 9/30
Hammer, Mike, 1/26, **March opening**, 3/9, 5/18
Hammett (Gores), 12/25
Hammett, Dashiell, 1/1, 1/21, 2/23, 5/3, 5/27, 7/29, 11/6, 12/25
Handful of Silver, A (Canning), 6/16
Hannay, Richard, 8/26
Hansen, Joseph, 7/19
Hardin, Bart, 3/21
Hare, Cyril, 9/4
Hari, Mata, 10/14
Harrison, Chip, 6/24
Harrison, Michael, 4/25
Hastings, Lt. Frank, 9/21
Hathaway, Henry, 8/27
Hatton, Rondo, 9/22
Haunting of Hill House, The (Jackson), 12/14
Hauptmann, Bruno Richard, 3/1, 4/3
Hawaii Five-O (television series), 4/26
Hawks, Howard, 8/31
Haycraft, Howard, 7/24
Hayden, Sterling, 10/7
Hayes, Joseph, 8/2
Hearst, Patricia, 2/5
Hecht, Ben, 2/28, 8/22
Heilbrun, Carolyn G.. *See* Cross, Amanda
Heller, Nate, 3/3
Hell Is a City (Procter), 2/4
Helm, Matt, 3/24, 6/17
Hemingway, Ernest, 8/28
Hemlock, Jonathan, 1/12
Henry, O., 9/11
Hercule Poirot (radio series), 2/22
Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, 6/1
Hewitt, Martin, 11/1
Heyer, Georgette, 8/16
Hickey and Boggs (film), 10/4
Hickock, Richard, 11/14
Higgins, Jack, 7/27
High Sierra (Burnett), 11/9
High Sierra (film), 1/4
Highsmith, Patricia, 1/19, 3/27
High Window, The (Chandler), 2/6
Hill, Reginald, 4/3
Hillerman, Tony, 5/27
Hilton, James, 9/9
Hilton, John Buxton, 6/8
Himes, Chester, 7/29
Hitchcock, Alfred, 1/14, 1/[illegible] 2/28, 3/17, 3/23, 4/5, 5/[illegible] 5/13, 5/16, 5/21, 5/28, 6/16, 6/30, 7/5, 8/13, 8/26, 10/2, 12/4
Hitler, Adolf, 11/30
Hoch, Edward D., 2/22
Hodgson, William Hope, 11/15
Hogan, Hard Rock, 3/11
Holding, James, 4/27
Holmes, H. H., 4/30
Holmes, Sherlock, 1/6, 2/17, 2/24, 5/4, 5/7, **September opening**, 9/1, 10/20, 11/30
Homes, Geoffrey, 7/12
Honey West (television series), 9/17
Hoover, J. Edgar, 5/1
Hopley, George, 12/4
Hopper, Hedda, 5/7
Horizontal Man, The (Eustis), 12/31
Horler, Sydney, 7/15
Hornung, E. W., 3/22, 6/7
Hot Rock, The (Westlake), 7/12
Hound of the Baskervilles, The (film, 1922) 9/10
Hound of the Baskervilles, The (film, 1939), 3/31
Household, Geoffrey, 11/30

House of Dr. Edwards, The (Beeding), 1/14
Howard, Leslie, 4/3
Host, Richard, 1/28
Hubin, Allen J., 3/5
Hudson, Jeffrey, 10/23
Hughes, Dorothy B., 5/17, 6/10
Hugo, Victor, 5/22
Hull, Richard, 9/6
Hume, Fergus, 7/8
Hunt, E. Howard, Jr., 10/9
Hunter, Ed and Am, 10/29
Hunter, Evan, 10/14
Hunter, The (Stark), 7/12, 9/18
Huston, John, 3/18, 6/8, 7/16, 10/3, 12/25

I, the Jury (film), 8/14
I, the Jury (Spillane), 3/9
I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang (film), 11/10
Ides of March, 3/15
I Die a Thousand Times (film), 11/9
"I Don't Like Mondays" (song), 1/29
Iles, Francis, 7/5, 9/6
I Love a Mystery (radio series), 1/16, 12/31
In a Lonely Place (film), 5/17
In a Lonely Place (Hughes), 8/10
In Cold Blood (Capote), 11/14
Incredible Schlock Holmes, The (Fish), 8/21
Innes, Hammond, 7/15
Innes, Michael, 9/30
Insidious Dr. Fu Manchu, The (film), 7/21
In the Fog (Davis), 4/18
In the Footsteps of Sherlock Holmes (Harrison), 4/25
In the Heat of the Night (film), 2/20, 7/8
Invasion of the Body Snatchers, The (film), 7/12
Ipcress File, The (Deighton), 2/18
Ipcress File, The (film), 3/14
Irish, William, 12/4
Iron Curtain, The (film), 5/13
Ironside (television series), 5/21
Iskirlak, Nuri, 3/27
I Spy (television series), 9/2, 10/4
I Wake Up Screaming (film), 1/16

Jackson, Shirley, 12/14
Jack the Ripper, 9/25, 10/16
James, Jesse, 6/7
James, P.D., 8/3
James Bond Dossier, The (Amis), 4/16
Janssen, David, 8/29
Jeffries, Roderic, 10/21
Joe, November, 11/17
John Silence (Blackwood), 3/14
Johnson, Coffin Ed, 7/29
Johnson, Don, 5/21
Johnson, Hal (the Library Fuzz), 4/27
Jon, Gee, 2/8
Jones, Grave Digger, 7/29
Jordan, Robert Furneaux. *See* Player, Robert
Journey Into Fear (film), 5/6
Judas Window, The (Dickson), 11/30
Judgment in Stone, A (Rendell), 2/17
Julian, Rupert, 9/6

Karloff, Boris, 2/26, 11/23
Karpis, Alvin, 5/1
Kavanagh, Paul, 6/24
Keating, H.R.F., 10/31
Keaton, Buster, 10/4
Keeler, Harry Stephen, 11/3
Kelly, Homer, 12/30
Kemelman, Harry, 11/24
Kendrick, Baynard H., 4/8
Kennedy, John F., 5/28
Key Largo (film), 7/16
Kildare, Dr., 5/29
Killers, The (film), 8/28
Killing, The (film), 5/20
Kimble, Richard, 8/29
King, Rufus, 1/3
Kingsley, Sidney, 11/6
Kiss, Kiss (Dahl), 9/13
Kiss Before Dying, A (Levin), 8/27
Kiss Me Deadly (film), 5/16
Kiss of Death (film), 8/27
Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye (film), 8/4
Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye (McCoy), 4/14
Klaw, Morris, 6/1
"Knights of the Open Palm" (Daly), 9/14
Knott, Frederick M.P., 3/23, 5/28
Knox, Ronald, 2/17
Kramer, 10/9
Kubrick, Stanley, 5/20
Kurnitz, Harry. *See* Page, Marco
Kurten, Peter, 7/2
Kuryakin, Illya, 1/15
Kuttner, Henry, 4/7

Lacy, Ed, 1/7
Ladd, Alan, 5/13
Lady in the Lake (film), 1/23
"Lady or the Tiger?, The" (Stockton), 4/5
Lair of the White Worm (film), 4/22
"Lamb to the Slaughter" (Dahl), 9/13
Landru, Henri, 2/25, 5/1
Lang, Fritz, 1/3, 3/23, 7/2, 12/5
Langfield, Sidney, 3/31
Langton, Jane, 12/30
Languille, Henri, 6/25
Lanigan, Hugh, 11/24
Lanyard, Michael (the Lone Wolf), 9/19, 12/2
Last Buccaneer, The (Wainwright), 2/25
Last Seen Wearing (Waugh), 6/22
Last Supper, The (McCarry), 6/14
Latimer, Jonathan, 10/23
Laughing Policeman, The (film), October opening, 10/1
Laughton, Charles, 4/9
Laura (Caspary), 11/13
Laura (film), 11/13
Leaphorn, Lt. Joe, 5/27
Leavenworth Case, The (Green), 3/2, 11/11
Leblanc, Maurice, 12/11
Le Carré, John, 10/19
Lecoq, Monsieur, 9/28
Lee, Gypsy Rose, 6/5
Lee, Manfred B., 1/11, 10/20
Le Fanu, Joseph Sheridan, 6/28
Leffing, Lucius, 12/20
Lemarchand, Elizabeth, 10/27
Le Moko, Pepe, 5/17

Leni, Paul, 9/9
Leopold, Nathan, 5/21
Le Queux, William, 7/2
Leroux, Gaston, 4/16
LeRoy, Mervyn, 11/10
Levin, Ira, 8/27
Lewin, Michael Z., 7/21
Lewis, Mary Christianna *See* Brand, Christianna
Lewis, Matthew Gregory, 5/14
License Renewed (Gardner), 11/20
Light of Day, The (Ambler), 6/28, 12/18
Lindbergh, Charles A , Jr., 3/1
Linington, Elizabeth. *See* Shannon, Dell
Listening House, The (Seeley), 3/25
Little Caesar (film), 11/25, 12/12
Live and Let Die (film), 10/14
Lockridge, Frances, 1/10, 9/25
Lockridge, Richard, 9/25
Lodger, The (film), 8/13
Loeb, Richard, 5/21
London After Midnight (film), 12/30
Lone Wolf, the (Michael Lanyard), 9/19, 12/2
Long, Huey (Kingfish), 9/8
Lorre, Peter, 3/23, 6/26, **November opening**, 12/5
Lost World, The (Doyle), 5/22
"Lottery, The" (Jackson), 12/14
Love, Pharoah, 6/11
Love, Sgt. Sidney, 2/1
Lovecraft, H. P , 4/5
Lovesey, Peter, 9/10
Löwenstein, Laszlo. *See* Lorre, Peter
Loy, Myrna, 7/29, 8/2
Ludlum, Robert, 5/25
Lukas, Paul, 5/26
Lumet, Sidney, 5/15
Lung, Kai, 3/20
Lupin, Arsène, 12/11
Lusk, George, 10/16
Lustig, Victor (the Count), 9/1
Lutz, John, 9/11
Lyall, Gavin, 5/9
Lyons, Arthur, 1/5

M (film), 3/23, 7/2, 12/5
Mabuse, Dr., 12/5
McBain, Ed, 2/4, 10/9, 10/14
McCallum, David, 1/15
McCarry, Charles, 6/14
McCloy, Helen, 6/6
McClure, James, 10/9
McCoy, Horace, 4/14, 8/4
McCue, Lillian Bueno. *See* De la Torre, Lillian
Mcdonald, Gregory, 2/15
MacDonald, John D , 7/24, 10/9
Macdonald, Ross, 2/5, 12/13
McGarr, Peter, 7/22, 12/13
McGarrett, Steve, 4/26
McGarrity, Mark. *See* Gill, Bartholomew
McGee, Travis, 7/24
McGerr, Patricia, 12/26
McGinnis, "Big Joe," 1/17
McGivern, William P., 12/6
MacHarg, William, 7/26, 9/18
Machen, Arthur, 12/15
MacInnes, Helen, 10/7
Mack, Terry, 9/14
McKee, Christopher, 1/11
McKern, Leo, **April opening**
Maclain, Duncan, 4/8
McLeod, Jim, 11/6
McMullen, Mary, 1/11
McNamara, John and Jim, 10/1
McNeile, Herman Cyril. *See* Sapper
Mad Butcher of Cleveland, 9/23
Madden, Owney (the Killer), 2/3
Magnum, P.I. (television series), 12/11
Maher, Wally, 10/16
Maigret, Jules, **February opening**, 2/13, 5/17
Mainwaring, Daniel. *See* Homes, Geoffrey
Maitland, Antony, 3/7
Malone, John J., 6/5
Maltese Falcon, The (film), 3/23, 10/3, 12/25
Maltese Falcon, The (Hammett), 12/2
Mamet, David, 8/25
Manchurian Candidate, The (film), 3/18, 10/24
Mancini, Henry, 9/22
Man from U N C L E , The television series), 1/15
Mansel, Jonah, 6/7
Man Who Knew Too Much, The (film, 1956), 5/16
Man Who Was Thursday, The (Chesterton), 6/14
Marcin, Max, 5/6
Markham, Robert, 4/16
Marlowe, Philip, 1/23, 2/6, 7/23
Marnie (film), 6/30
Marple, Jane, 1/12, 5/11, 9/15
Marquand, John P., 11/10
Marric, J J , 9/17
Marsh, Ngaio, 4/23
Marshall, George, 5/8
Marshall, William, 7/19
Martin, Dean, 3/24, 6/17
Martineau, Harry, 2/4
Martini, 1/10
Martin Kane, Private Detective (radio series), 8/7
Martin Kane, Private Eye (television series), 8/7, 9/1
Marvin, Lee, 7/12
Mask of Dimitrios, The (film), 2/2
Mason, Perry, 3/11, 4/19, 5/21, 7/17
Mason, Randolph, 4/19
Masquerade (film), 6/16
Master of Mysteries (Burgess), 1/30
Masuto, Masao, 11/11
Mata Hari, 10/14
Matthau, Walter, **October opening**, 10/1
Maugham, W Somerset, 1/25
Max Carrados (Bramah), 3/20
Maxim, Major Harry, 5/9
Mayo, Asey, 1/9
Mean Streets, The (Dewes), 3/6
Meeker, Ralph, 5/18
Meet the Tiger (Charteris), 5/12
Mendoza, Lt Luis, 3/11
Mercer, William Mercer. *See* Yates, Dornford
Mercury Players, 11/12
Merlini, Great, 8/15
Merrivale, Sir Henry, 11/30
Mertz, Barbara G , 9/29
Miami Vice (television series 5/21
Michaels, Barbara, 9/29
Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer (television series), 1/26
Middle Temple Murder Fletcher), 1/31

Mildred Pierce (film), 9/28
Milland, Ray, 4/9
Millar, Kenneth. *See* Macdonald, Ross
Millar, Margaret, 2/5
Milne, A. A., 1/18
Milodragovitch, 10/12
Ministry of Fear, The (film), 10/2, 12/5
Minter, Mary Miles, 2/2
Mischief (Armstrong), 5/2
Misérables, Les (Hugo), 5/22
Mr. and Mrs. North (radio series), 12/20
Mr. Wong, Detective (film), 2/26
Mitchell, Gladys, 4/19
Moffett, Cleveland, 4/27
Mohr, Gerald, 9/25
Mona Lisa (Da Vinci), 8/21
Mongo, 6/4
Monk, The (Lewis), 5/14
Monroe, Marilyn, 6/8
Monsieur Verdoux (film), 2/25
Montgomery, Robert, 1/23
Moon, Manny, 4/25
Moonstone, The (Collins), 1/8
Moore, Roger, 5/29, 10/14
Moore, Toussaint, 1/7
Morgan, Claudia, 7/2
Moriarty, Professor, 5/4, 5/7, 9/1
Morland, Nigel, 6/24
Morris, Chester, 2/16
Morrison, Arthur, 11/1
Mortal Consequences (Symons), 5/30
Mortimer, John, 4/21
Moskowitz, Stacy, 7/31
Mosley, Inspector, 6/8
"Most Dangerous Game, The" (Connell), 10/17
Moto, I. O., November opening, 11/10
Mousetrap, The (Christie), 11/25
Moving Target, The (Macdonald), 12/13
Muffin, Charlie, 6/10
Munn, Paul, 11/10
Murder at School (Trevor), 9/9
Murder for Pleasure, (television series), 7/24
Murder Has Been Arranged, A (Williams), 11/26
Murder of a Wife (Kuttner), 4/7
Murder of My Aunt, The (Hull), 9/6
Murder of Roger Ackroyd, The (Christie), 9/15
Murder of Roger Ackroyd, The (radio show), 11/12
Murder on the Orient Express (film), 5/15
"Murders in the Rue Morgue" (Poe), 1/19
Murphy, Audie, 5/15
Murphy, Jack (Murph the Surf), 10/29
Mute Witness (Pike), 8/21
Mycroft & Moran, 2/24
Mystères de Paris, Les (Sue), 12/10
Mysteries of Udolpho, The (Radcliffe), 2/7, 7/9
Mysterious Card, The (Moffett), 4/27
Mysterious Mickey Finn, The (Paul), 2/11
Mystery! (television series), April opening, 7/20
Mystery of a Hansom Cab, The (Hume), 7/8
Mystery of Edwin Drood, The (Dickens), 2/7, 6/9
Mystery of Marie Roget, The (film), 5/4
"Mystery of Marie Roget, The" (Poe), 7/25
"Mystery of the Raymond Mortgage, The" (Fitzgerald), 9/24

Naked Gun, The: From the Files of Police Squad! (film), 3/4
Name of the Rose, The (film), 8/25
Nash, Ogden, 8/19
New Orleans Times-Picayune, The, 3/13
New Scotland Yard, 6/1
New York City blackout (1965), 11/9
New York Daily News, The, 1/13
New York Detective Library, 6/7
New York Times Book Review, The, 8/21
Nicholson, Jack, 6/21
Nicholson, Margaret Beda, 1/30
Nick Carter Library, 8/6
Nielsen, Leslie, 3/4
Night Has a Thousand Eyes, The (film), 10/23
Night Must Fall (Williams), 11/26
Night of the Jabberwock Brown), 10/29
Nikola, Dr., 10/13
Normand, Mabel, 2/2
North, Mr. and Mrs., 1/10, 9/25
Norwood, Eile, 9/10
Notorious (film), 2/28
Novak, Kim, 8/13
No Way Out (film), 7/28
Nudger, Alo, 9/11
Nugent, Frank S., 5/31

O'Brien, Edmond, 4/30
O'Donnell, Peter, 4/11
O'Higgins, Harvey J., 11/13
Oland, Warner, 4/28, 7/21
Old Captain Collier Library, The, 4/9
Old Dark House, The, 9/13
Old English Peep Show, The (Dickinson), 12/16
Old Man in the Corner (Bill Owen), 9/23
On Her Majesty's Secret Service (Fleming), 5/28
Oppenheim, E. Phillips, 10/22
Ordway, Robert, 5/6
Ortega, Santos, 10/18
Otis, Harrison Gray, 10/1
Oursler, Fulton. *See* Abbot, Anthony
Out of the Past (film), 7/12, 11/25
Owen, Bill (Old Man in the Corner), 9/23

Packard, Frank, 2/2
Padgett, Lewis, 4/7
Page, Marco, 1/5
Palmer, Harry, 2/18, 3/14, 10/24
Palmer, John Leslie, 1/14 *See also* Beeding, Francis
Palmer, Stuart, 6/21
Papazoglou, Orania, 1/1
Pargeter, Edith Mary *See* Peters, Ellis

Paris, Charles, 10/28
Parker (fictional character), 7/12
Parker, Bonnie, 5/23
Parker, Dorothy, 5/7
Parker, Robert, 7/23, 9/17
Pascoe, Peter, 4/3
"Passage to Benares, A" (Stribling), 3/4
Patent Leather Kid, 3/11
Patterson, Henry. *See* Higgins, Jack
Paul, Elliot, 2/11
Payn, James, 2/28
Pearl of Death, The (film), 9/22
Peel, Sir Robert, 6/1
Pemberton, Sir Max, 6/19
Penguin Pool Murder, The (film), 6/21
Perdue, Chance, 8/21
Perry Mason (radio series), 10/18
Perry Mason (television series), 5/21, 5/22, 9/21
Peter Gunn (television series), 9/22
Peter's Pence (Cleary), 11/22
Peters, Elizabeth, 9/29
Peters, Ellis, 9/28
Pettigrew, Francis, 9/4
Phantom Lady (film), 2/17
Phantom of the Opera, The (film, 1925), 9/6
Phantom of the Opera, The (Leroux), 4/16
Philby, Kim, 1/23
Phillpotts, Eden, 11/4
Pickup on South Street (film), 6/17
Pick Your Victim (McGerr), 12/26
Pike, Robert L., 8/21
Pine, Paul, 4/15
Pino, "Fats," 1/17
Player, Robert, 4/10
Poe, Edgar Allan, 1/19, 3/6, 5/4, 5/30, 7/25
Poggioli, Henry, 3/4
Point Blank (film), 7/12, 9/18
Poirot, Hercule, 1/12, 5/22, 9/15
Poisoned Chocolates Case, The (Cox), 7/5
Poison Oracle, The (Dickinson), 12/16
Poitier, Sidney, 2/20
Polanski, Roman, 6/21
Police Reporter (television series), 4/22
Police Squad (television series), 3/4
Pollard, Tom, 10/27
Pons, Solar, 2/24
Poodle Spring (Chandler, Parker), 7/23
Porter, William Sidney. *See* Henry, O
Post, Melville Davisson, 4/19
Postman Always Rings Twice, The (Cain), 7/1
Postman Always Rings Twice, The (film), 5/2
Powder, Lt. Leroy, 7/21
Powell, William, 7/29
Prather, Richard S., 9/9
Pratt, William Henry. *See* Karloff, Boris
President's Mystery Story, The, 11/16
Price, Anthony, 8/16
Prichard, Hesketh, 11/17
Priestley, J. B., 9/13
Prince of Swindlers, The (Boothby), 10/13
Private Life of Sherlock Holmes, The (Starrett), 10/26
Prizzi's Honor (film), 3/18
Procter, Maurice, 2/4
Pronzini, Bill, 4/13
Psycho (Bloch), 4/5
Purbright, Inspector, 2/1

Queen, Ellery, 1/11, 4/25, 6/17, 7/24, 10/20
Queer Kind of Death, A (Baxt), 6/11

Radcliffe, Ann, 2/7, 7/9
Raffles, A. J., 3/22, 6/7
Rainbird Pattern, The (Canning), 6/16
Randolph, Georgiana Ann. *See* Rice, Craig
Rappe, Virginia, 9/5
Rathbone, Basil, 3/31, 7/21, 9/1, 9/22
"Raven, The" (poem), 1/19
Rawson, Clayton, 8/15
Ray, Nicholas, 5/17, 11/4
Reach, Angus, 1/24
Rear Window (film), 5/21, 12/4
Rear Window (Woolrich), 12/4
Rebecca (Du Maurier), 5/13
Red House Mystery, The (Milne), 1/15
Reeder, J. G., 4/1
Reeve, Arthur B., 10/15
Regester, Seeley, 3/2
Reichenbach Falls, 5/1
Reilly, Helen, 1/11
Reilly, Sidney, 11/5
Rendell, Ruth, 2/17
Rendezvous in Black (Woolrich), 12/4
Retrieved Reformation, A (Henry), 9/11
Return of Solar Pons, The (Derleth), 2/24
Rhodenbarr, Bernie, 6/24
Rice, Craig, 6/5
Ride the Pink Horse (Hughes), 8/10
Rigg, Diana, 7/20
Rinehart, Mary Roberts, 9/22
Rip, 3/11
Ripley, Tom, 1/19
Ritchie, Jack, 2/26
Robeson, Kenneth, 10/12
Robinson, Bartlett, 10/18
Robinson, Edward G., 7/16, 12/12
Rockford, Jim, 9/13
Rockford Files, The (television series), 9/13
Roeg, Nicolas, 5/13
Rogers, Mary Cecelia, 7/25
Rogue Male (Household), 11/30
Rohmer, Sax, 2/15, 4/24, 6/1, 9/25
Rollison, Richard (the Toff), 9/17
Roman Hat Mystery, The (Queen), 1/11
Room to Swing (Lacy), 1/7
Roosevelt, Franklin D., 2/15, 11/16
Roosevelt, Theodore, 10/14
Rope (film), 3/17, 5/21
Rope (Hamilton), 3/17
Rosemary's Baby, 8/27
Rubinstein, Serge, 1/26
Ruell, Patrick, 4/3
Rumpole, Horace, 4/21
Runyon, Damon, 3/19
Rutherford, Margaret, 5/11

Saboteur (film), 5
Sacco and Vanzetti, 5/5, 8/23
Saint, the (Simon Templar), 5/12, 7/3, 10/14
Saint Valentine's Day Massacre (1929), 2/14
Sampson, Richard Henry. *See* Hull, Richard
Samson, Albert, 7/21
Sam Spade, 1/1
Sanctuary (Faulkner), 9/25
Sanders, George, 6/5, 7/3
Sapper, 7/18, 9/28
Sargeant, Peter Cutler, II, 10/3
Satan Met a Lady (William), 12/2
Saunders, Hilary Aidan St. George, 1/14. *See also* Beeding, Francis
Savage, Doc, 10/12
Sayers, Dorothy L., 7/13, 12/17
Scarlet Pimpernel, 9/23
Schrank, John, 10/14
Scotland Yard, 6/1
Scott, Shell, 9/9
Scudder, Matt, 6/24
Secret Agent, The (Conrad), 12/3
Secret Beyond the Door, The (film), 1/3
Seeley, Mabel, 3/25
Selleck, Tom, 12/11
Shaffer, Anthony, 5/15
Shaffer, Peter, 5/15
Shannon, Dell, 3/11
Shaw, George Bernard, 2/7
Shayne, Michael, 10/16
Shears, Holmlock, 12/11
Shelley, Mary, 8/30
Sherlock, Jr. (film), 10/4
Sherlock Holmes (film), 5/7
Sherlock Holmes (radio series), 10/20
Sherlock Holmes and the Spider Woman (film), 1/21
Shiel, M. P., 7/21
Shoot the Piano Player (film), 3/2
Shore, Jemima, 8/27
Short, Elizabeth, 1/15
Sickles, Dan, 2/19
Silver, Miss Maud, 1/28
Silver Bears, The, 5/19
Sim, Alastair, 10/9
Simenon, Georges, 2/13, 5/17
Sims, George, 5/30, 9/2
Sinatra, Frank, 10/7, 10/24, 12/8, 12/23
Sinatra, Frank, Jr., 12/8
Singing Bone, The (Freeman), 4/11
Siodmak, Robert, 1/12, 2/17, 4/30, 8/28
Six Napoleons, The (Doyle), 9/22
Sjöwall, Maj, 8/5, 10/1
Sleeping Murder (Christie), 1/12
Slesar, Henry, 6/12
Sleuth (Shaffer), 5/15
Small, Rabbi David, 11/24
Smallbone Deceased (Gilbert), 7/17
Smiley, George, 10/19
Smith, Kay Nolte, 7/4
Smith, Perry, 11/14
Snobbery with Violence (Watson), 2/1
Snyder, Ruth Brown, 1/13, 3/19
So Blue Marble, The (Hughes), 8/10
Sojin, K., 1/1
Solo, Napoleon, 1/15
Solomon's Vineyard (Latimer), 10/23
Someone Like You (Dahl), 9/13
Some Run Crooked (Hilton), 6/8
Sondergaard, Gale, 1/21
Son of Gun in Cheek (Pronzini), 4/13
"Son of Sam" (David Berkowitz), 7/31
Sorry, Wrong Number (film), 9/1
Sorry, Wrong Number (Fletcher), 3/28
Spade, Sam, 1/1, 5/27, 12/2, 12/25
"Specialty of the House, The" (Ellin), 10/6
Spellbound (film), 1/14, 2/28
Spencer, Brenda, 1/29
Spencer, Ross H., 8/21
Spenser, 9/17
Spider Woman, 1/21
Spillane, Mickey, 3/9, 5/18, 8/14, 9/9
Standish, Tiger, 7/18
Stanwyck, Barbara, 7/16
Stark, Richard, 7/12, 9/18
Starrett, Vincent, 10/26
Sternberg, Josef von, 2/28, 6/1
Stevens, Craig, 9/22
Stevenson, Robert Louis, 1/29, 8/4, 10/2, 11/13
Stewart, John Innes Mackintosh. *See* Innes, Michael
Stockton, Frank, 4/5
Stoker, Bram, 4/22
"Stolen White Elephant, The" (Twain), 11/30
Stone, Fleming, 6/18
Stout, Rex, 7/5, 12/1
Strand, The (magazine), 2/24, 11/1
Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, The (Stevenson), 8/4, 11/13
Stranger, The (film), 5/6
Strangers on a Train (film), 1/19, 6/30
Strangers on a Train (Highsmith), 1/19
Strangeways, Nigel, 4/27
Stratemeyer, Edward L., 5/10
Stratemeyer Syndicate, 5/10
Street and Smith, 8/8
Stribling, T. S., 3/4
Stringer, Arthur, 9/14
Strong Poison (Sayers), 7/13
Stroud, Robert (Birdman of Alcatraz), 3/26
Study in Scarlet, A (Doyle), 1/6, 2/28
"Study in Surmise, A" (Harrison), 4/25
Suddenly (film), 10/7
Sue, Eugène, 12/10
Sughrue, 10/12
Sunset Boulevard (film), 8/10
Suspense (radio show), 3/16
Suspense Theater (radio show), 3/26
Suspicion (film), 7/5
Sutton, Willie "the Actor," 5/7
Swenson, Karl, 6/10
Symbionese Liberation Army, 2/5
Symons, Julian, 5/30

Taylor, Phoebe Atwood (Alice Tilton), 1/9, 5/18
Taylor, Wendell H., 6/15, 11/30

Taylor, William Desmond, 2/2
Technique of the Mystery Story, The (Wells), 6/18
Templar, Simon (the Saint), 5/12, 7/3, 10/14
Ten Little Indians (Christie), 6/27
Ten Little Niggers (Christie), 9/15
Terror, The (film), 8/15
Terror, The (Machen), 12/15
Terror on Broadway (Alexander), 3/21
That Darn Cat, 3/12
Thaw, Harry K., 6/25
Thaver, Lee, 4/5
They Live by Night (film), 11/4
They Shoot Horses, Don't They (McCoy), 4/14
Thief of Bagdad, The (Abdullah), 5/12
Thieves Like Us (Anderson), 11/4
Things as They Are, or The Adventures of Caleb Williams (Godwin), 3/3
Thinking Machine, 4/15
Thin Man, The (Hammett), 5/27
Thin Man series (films), 7/29, 8/2
Third Man, The (film), 5/6, 10/2
Thirty-nine Steps, The (Buchan), 8/26
Thirty-nine Steps, The (film), 8/26
This Gun for Hire (film), 5/13
This Man is Dangerous (Cheney), 2/22
Thomas, Ross, 2/19
Thompson, Alvin Clarence, 4/14
Thompson, Jim, 5/20
Thorndyke, Dr., 4/11
3-D films, 8/14
"Three Gun Terry" (Daly), 9/14
Thrilling Stories of the Railway (Whitechurch), 3/12
Tibbs, Virgil, 2/20, 7/8
Tiger in the Smoke, The (Allingham), 5/20
Tilton, Alice, 5/18
Titanic (ocean liner), 4/14
Todd, Thelma, 9/16
Toff, the, 9/17, 8/26
Toler, Sidney, 4/28, 5/31
Topkapi (film), 10/29, 12/15
Torso Killer, 9/23
Touch of Evil, 5/21
Towne, Robert, 6/21
Toye, Gregory, 10/27
Tracy, Dick, 6/4, 10/4, 11/20
Transcendental Murder (Langton), 12/30
Treat, Lawrence, 12/21
Trent, Philip, 3/30
Trent's Last Case (Bentley), 3/30, 7/10
Trevanian, 1/12
Trevor, Glen, 9/9
True Confessions (Dunne), 5/25
True Detective (Collins), 3/3
Trueheart, Tess, 6/4
Truffaut, François, 3/2, 12/4
Tumbull, Dora Amy Elles Dillon. *See* Wentworth, Patricia
Twain, Mark, 11/30

Uncle Silas (Le Fanu), 8/28
Underwood, Michael, 6/2
Underworld (film), 2/28, 6/1, 8/22
Unique Hamlet, The (Starrett), 10/26
Unsuitable Job for a Woman, An (James), 8/3
Untouchables, The (film), 8/25
Upfield, Arthur W., 9/1

Vachss, Andrew, 10/19
Valcour, Lt., 1/3
Vance, Joseph Louis, 9/19
Vance, Philo, 3/10, 4/11, 5/26, 7/26, 7/29, 8/19
Van der Valk, Inspector, 3/3
Van de Wetering, Janwillem, 2/12
Van Dine, S. S., 2/11, 4/11, 11/16
Van Doren, Mamie, 10/22
Van Dusen, S F X., 4/15
Vane, Harriet, 12/17
Van Gulik, Robert, 8/9
Vanzetti, Bartolomeo, 5/5
Vaughn, Robert, 1/15
Velvet, Nick, 2/22
Vertigo (film), 5/28, 8/13
Victor, Metta Victoria Fuller. *See* Regester, Seeley
Vidal, Gore, 10/3
Vine, Barbara, 2/17
Violante, Robert, 7/31
Vitaphone, 6/15
Von Seyffertitz, Gustav, 5/17
Von Sternberg, Joseph, 8/22

Wager, Gabe, 6/13
Wahlöö, Per, 6/5
Wainwright, John, 2/25
Wallace, Edgar, 2/10, 4/1, 6/24, 8/15
Walsh, Raoul, 1/4, 9/2
Wambaugh, Joseph, 1/22
Ward, Arthur Henry Sarsfield. *See* Rohmer, Sax
Was It Murder? (Hilton), 9/9
Watch on the Rhine (film), 5/26
Watson, Colin, 2/1
Watson's Choice (Mitchell), 4/19
Waugh, Hilary, 6/22
Webb, Jack, 1/3, 4/2, 7/7
Weiss, Carl Austin, 9/8
Welles, Orson, 5/6, 5/21
Wellman, William A., 5/13
Wells, Carolyn, 6/15
Wells, H. G., 9/21
Wentworth, Patricia, 1/28
Westlake, Donald E., 7/12
Wexford, 2/17
What Bloody Man Is That? Brett), 10/28
Wheatley, Dennis, 1/5
Whispering Smith (television series), 5/15
White, Lionel, 5/20
White, Phyllis. *See* James, P D
White, Stanford, 6/25
White, William Anthony Parker. *See* Boucher, Anthony
Whitechurch, Victor L., 3/12
White Heat (film), 9/2
Whitman, Charles, 6/1
Whitney, Phyllis A., 9/9
Whittaker, Rodney. *See* Trevanian
Whose Body? (Sayers), 7/13
Widmark, Richard, 6/17, 8/27
Wieland, Or, the Transformation (Brown), 1/17
Wiggar, 4/5
Wilcox, Collin, 9/21
Wilder, Billy, 7/16, 8/10, 9/7
Wiley, Hugh, 2/26

William, Warren, 12/2
Williams, Emlyn, 11/26
Williams, Race, 1/16, 9/14
Willing, Dr. Basil, 6/6
Wimsey, Lord Peter, 7/13, 12/17
Wind Chill Factor, The (Gifford), 5/16
Witherall, Leonidas, 5/18
Withers, Hildegard, 6/21
Witness for the Prosecution (Christie), 10/28
Wohlöö, Per, 10/1
Wolfe, Nero, 12/1
Woman in White, The (Collins), 1/8
Wong, Mr., 2/26
Woods, Sara (Sara Bowen-Judd), 3/7
Woolrich, Cornell, 2/17, 12/4
Wreck of the Mary Deare, The (Innes), 7/15
Wright, Willard Huntington. *See* Van Dine, S. S.
Wrong Box, The (Stevenson), 11/13
Wyler, William, 11/6
Yates, Dornford, 8/7
Yates, Geoffrey Alan. *See* Brown, Carter
Yin, Leslie Charles Bowyer. *See* Charteris, Leslie
Yung, Sen, 5/31

Zangara, Giuseppe, 2/15
Zangwill, Israel, 1/21
Zanuck, Darryl F., 1/16
Zinberg, Len. *See* Lacy, Ed
Zoom, Sidney, 3/11
Zucco, George, 9/1

ISBN 0-89296-422-7